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# B U L L E T I N

## of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

### JANUARY - 1952

NUMBER 124

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# THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

A non-profit institution incorporated Feb. 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the IRIS.

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Auctioneer harangues prospective purchasers at Colorado Iris Auction  
(see Foreword).

Next year it is proposed to open the Symposium to all the members of the society. It will probably be in a simplified form in which the members will be asked merely to check their favorites, and the tabulation will first be done by Regions, and the Regional totals compiled into one list by the Awards Committee. This is an experiment, but if the members and Regional Vice Presidents will co-operate, it should be interesting and of value.—HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, *Chairman, Awards Committee.*

## THE 100 FAVORITE IRISES OF 1951

### Symposium of 262 Judges of the American Iris Society

<i>Name</i>	<i>Originator and Year Introduced</i>	<i>1950 Rank</i>	<i>Color</i>	<i>Times Total Rated Points</i>
1 Blue Rhythm	Whiting '45 DM	2	Cornflower blue	260 2394
2 Amandine	Douglas, G. '46	11	Lemon Cream	242 2114
3 Blue Shimmer	Sass, J. '42	4	Blue & white plicata	261 2113
4 Cherie	Hall, D. F. '47 DM	19	Shell pink	247 2103
5 Helen McGregor	Graves, '46 DM	3	Light blue	256 2085
6 Lady Mohr	Salbach '44	6	Oyster white & chartreuse	261 2068
7 Chivalry	Wills '44 DM	1	Medium blue	255 2053
8 Master Charles	Williamson '43	5	Mulberry-purple	257 2053
9 Ola Kala	Sass, J. '43 DM	HF	Deep yellow	261 2041
10 New Snow	Fay '46	12	White	243 2035
11 Cascade Splendor	Kleinsorge '45	10	Pink & apricot blend	253 2032
12 Bryce Canyon	Kleinsorge '44	9	Henna-copper	259 2012
13 Pink Camco	Fay '46	20	Pale cameo pink	252 1992
14 Elmohr	Loomis '42 DM	14	Red violet	260 1937
15 Solid Mahogany	Sass, J. '44	13	Mahogany red	256 1924
16 Great Lakes	Cousins '38 DM	HF	Blue	261 1915
17 Lady Boscawen	Graves '46	16	Ruffled white	243 1908
18 Azure Skies	Pattison '43	21	Pale lavender blue	253 1897
19 Ranger	Kleinsorge '43	27	Red crimson	251 1891
20 Spanish Peaks	Loomis '47	45	White	239 1888
21 Mulberry Rose	Schreiner '41	25	Mulberry rose	257 1880
22 Chantilly	Hall, D. F. '45	34	Ruffled pale orchid pink	256 1878
23 Minnie Colquitt	Sass, H. P. '41	65	Plicata-white edge purple	256 1874
24 Blue Valley	Smith, K. D. '47	24	Medium blue	238 1873
25 Sable	Cook, P. '38	HF	Blue-black violet	261 1833
26 Dreamcastle	Cook, P. '43	15	Orchid pink	241 1830
27 Berkeley Gold	Salbach '42	7	Medium yellow	254 1817
28 Argus Pheasant	De Forest '48	37	Brown	211 1811
29 Black Forest	Schreiner '45	36	Blue black	249 1811
30 Snow Flurry	Rees '39	8	Ruffled white	255 1811
31 Desert Song	Fay '46	44	Cream	226 1786
32 Rocket	Whiting '45	29	Deep orange yellow	248 1778
33 Sylvia Murray	Norton '44	30	Pale blue	243 1775
34 Cloud Castle	Graves '44	52	Pale wisteria blue	242 1749

Name	Originator and Year Introduced	1950 Rank	Color	Times Total	
				Rated Points	
35 Pinnacle	Stevens '49	—	Standards white, falls primrose yellow	216	1735
36 Katharine Fay	Fay '45	62	White	249	1727
37 Garden Glory	Whiting '43	22	Deep wine red	234	1722
38 Distance	Cook, P. '46	17	Light blue	221	1701
39 Chamois	Kleinsorge '44	39	Chamois	233	1692
40 Casa Morena	De Forest '43	40	Deep rich brown	250	1688
41 Cloth of Gold	Whiting '45	38	Deep yellow	234	1677
42 Fantasy	Hall, D. F. '47	71	Orchid rose	225	1660
43 Extravaganza	Douglas, G. '46	26	Cream, copper red bicolor	234	1658
44 Tiffanja	De Forest '42	18	White & buff plicata	252	1658
45 Pink Formal	Muhlestein '49	—	Shell pink	201	1656
46 Amigo	Williamson '34	HF	Pansy purple bitone	259	1656
47 Grand Canyon	Kleinsorge '41	61	Dark plum & copper blend	255	1641
48 Wabash	Williamson '36 DM	HF	Standards wh., falls violet	260	1628
49 Lynn Langford	Hall, D. F. '46	78	Deep orchid, golden center	227	1621
50 The Admiral	Hall, D. F. '41	35	Intense blue	250	1618
51 Moonlight Madonna	Sass, J. '43	28	Lemon Ice	253	1592
52 Arab Chief	Whiting '44	55	Gold and copper blend	235	1570
53 Vatican Purple	Whiting '43	100	Deep purple	239	1562
54 Goldbeater	Kleinsorge '44	23	Chrome-yellow self	228	1561
55 Three Oaks	Whiting '43	—	Rose, copper & blue blend	244	1535
56 Firecracker	Hall, D. F. '43	—	Yellow ground, red plicata	251	1534
57 Bandmaster	Hall, D. F. '44	47	Medium blue	236	1531
58 Violet Symphony	Smith, K. D. '40	48	Lilac-mauve	241	1527
59 Pretty Quadroon	Kleinsorge '48	94	Copper brown blend	208	1526
60 Gypsy	Kleinsorge '44	32	Gold & chestnut-brown variegata	225	1510
61 Gloriole	Gage '33	HF	Ice-blue	256	1504
62 Lothario	Schreiner '42	41	Blue bi-tone	231	1503
63 Golden Fleece	Sass, J. '40	43	Lemon yellow and white	254	1494
64 Mattie Gates	Sass Bros. '46	—	Gold and white	213	1492
65 The Red Douglas	Sass, J. '37 DM	HF	Wine-red	258	1489
66 Tobacco Road	Kleinsorge '42	31	Tobacco-brown	251	1487
67 Prairie Sunset	Sass, H. P. '39 DM	HF	Rose copper blend	260	1487
68 Winter Carnival	Schreiner '41	46	White	238	1482
69 Gudrun	Dykes, K. '38	85	White	257	1476
70 Mexico	Kleinsorge '43	75	Blended gold & red-brown	240	1471
71 Snow Carnival	Graves '42	49	White	235	1470
72 Missouri	Grinter '33 DM	HF	Medium blue	258	1469
73 Harriet Thoreau	Cook, P. '44	91	Orchid pink	230	1466
74 Radiation	Hall, D. F. '48	50	Orchid pink	199	1464
75 Los Angeles	Mohr-Mitchell '27	HF	White and blue plicata	257	1462
76 Spun Gold	Glutzbeck '40 DM	42	Yellow	254	1461
77 Sharkskin	Douglas, G. '42	56	Warm white	240	1457
78 China Maid	Milliken '37	HF	Pink blend	258	1457
79 Elsa Sass	Sass, H. P. '39	HF	Sulphur-white blaze	256	1432
80 Treasure Island	Kleinsorge '37	HF	Yellow	252	1415
81 Matterhorn	Sass, J. '38	HF	White	253	1413

Name	Originator and Year Introduced	1950		Times Rated	Total Points
		Rank	Color		
82 Deep Velvet	Salbach '39	58	Red-purple	238	1410
83 Red Valor	Nicholls '39	69	Garnet-red	244	1393
84 Fair Elaine	Mitchell '38	HF	Yellow bi-tone	255	1393
85 Sierra Blue	Essig '32 DM	HF	Tall blue	256	1393
86 Golden Majesty	Salbach '38	HF	Golden yellow	256	1392
87 City of Lincoln	Sass, H. P. '36	HF	Yellow and red bi-color	257	1392
88 Ormohr	Kleinsorge '37	—	Blue lilac	251	1389
89 Indiana Night	Cook, P. '42	77	Black purple	229	1386
90 Golden Russet	Hall, D. F. '46	97	Golden russet	210	1385
91 Old Parchment	Kleinsorge '39	—	Light cream buff	250	1383
92 The Capitol	Maxwell '44	82	Cream white	216	1379
93 Shining Waters	Essig '33	HF	Blue	253	1378
94 Priscilla	Whiting '42	60	White	225	1377
95 Golden Treasure	Schreiner '36	HF	Cream-yellow blend	247	1372
96 Tiffany	Sass, H. P. '38	HF	Yellow & violet plicata	253	1370
97 Easter Bonnet	Maxwell-Norton '44	33	Pink edged gold	220	1367
98 Arctic	Kleinsorge '40	—	White flushed yellow	248	1364
99 Cordovan	Kleinsorge '46	53	Coppery ox-blood	205	1361
100 Daybreak	Kleinsorge '41	92	Golden pink, copper blend	244	1361

## THE 100 FAVORITE IRISES OF 1951 BY COLOR\*

### *Blue-white Self*

Snow Flurry 30

### *White-White Self*

New Snow 10  
Lady Boscawen 17  
Spanish Peaks 20  
Katherine Fay 36  
Matterhorn 81  
Priscilla 94

### *Warm White Self*

Winter Carnival 68  
Gudrun 69  
Snow Carnival 71  
Sharkskin 77  
The Capitol 92

### *Light Blue Self*

Helen McGregor 5  
Azure Skies 18  
Sylvia Murray 33  
Cloud Castle 34  
Distance 38  
Gloriole 61  
Shining Waters 93

### *Medium Blue Self*

Blue Rhythm 1  
Chivalry 7  
Great Lakes 16  
Blue Valley 24  
The Admiral 50  
Bandmaster 57  
Missouri 72  
Sierra Blue 85

### *Dark Blue Self*

Sable 25  
Black Forest 29  
Indiana Night 89

### *Blue Bicolor*

Lothario 62

### *Cream-Light Yellow*

Amandine 2  
Desert Song 31  
Moonlight Madonna 51  
Golden Fleece 63  
Mattie Gates 64  
Elsa Sass 79  
Arctic 98

\* Numerical position in 1951 Symposium follows variety name.

### *Medium Yellow*

- Berkeley Gold 27
- Cloth of Gold 41
- Goldbeater 54
- Spun Gold 76
- Treasure Island 80
- Golden Majesty 86
- Golden Treasure 95

### *Red Violet Self*

- Master Charles 8

### *Variegata*

- Gypsy 60
- Mexico 70
- City of Lincoln 87

### *Orange-yellow*

- Ola Kala 9
- Rocket 32

### *Amoena-Neglecta*

- Extravaganza 43
- Amigo 46
- Wabash 48

### *Red Self*

- Solid Mahogany 15
- Ranger 19
- Garden Glory 37
- The Red Douglas 65
- Red Valor 83

### *Onco-hybrid*

- Lady Mohr 6
- Elmohr 14
- Ormohr 88

### *Lavender-pink Self*

- Chantilly 22
- Dreamcastle 26
- Fantasy 42
- Lynn Langford 49
- Harriet Thoreau 73

### *Yellow-white Bicolor*

- Pinnacle 35
- Fair Elaine 84

### *Light Blend*

(*Yellow Predominating*)

- Cascade Splendor 11
- Chamois 39
- Golden Russet 90
- Old Parchment 91
- Daybreak 100

### *Blue Plicata*

- Blue Shimmer 3

### *Medium to Dark Blend*

(*Brown Predominating*)

- Bryce Canyon 12
- Argus Pheasant 28
- Casa Morena 40
- Grand Canyon 47
- Arab Chief 52
- Pretty Quadroon 59
- Tobacco Road 66
- Prairie Sunset 67
- Cordovan 99

### *Purple Plicata*

- Minnie Colquitt 23
- Los Angeles 75

### *Light Plicata*

- Tiffanja 44
- Firecracker 56
- Tiffany 96

### *Light to Medium Violet Self*

- Violet Symphony 58

### *Rose Blend*

- Mulberry Rose 21
- Three Oaks 55
- China Maid 78
- Easter Bonnet 97

### *Blue Violet Self*

- Vatican Purple 53
- Deep Velvet 82

## *In Memoriam*

### **SYDNEY B. MITCHELL**

After an illness of six weeks, Sydney B. Mitchell passed away at his home in Berkeley, California. Mr. Mitchell, founder and Dean Emeritus of the University of California School of Librarianship, was seventy-three years of age at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rose Mitchell and his sister Mrs. C. A. MacKenzie, of Winnipeg, Canada.

Prof. Mitchell was a native of Montreal, Canada, and held Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees from MaGill University. Also he held an honorary Doctor of Literature degree from Occidental College. Having studied at the New York State Library School, he joined the University of California staff in 1911 and was appointed chairman of the department of library science in 1924. In 1927 he was named professor and director of the school of librarianship and in 1944 dean of the school. In 1946 he retired as Dean Emeritus.

He was a member of the executive board of the American Library Association and former vice-president of the California Library Association, president of the Association of Library Schools, and a fellow of the American Library Institute. At one time he was advisory editor of the Library Quarterly.

Throughout his life Prof. Mitchell was keenly interested in horticulture. Until recently he was president of the California Horticultural Society and editor of its journal. Widely acclaimed as a lecturer and speaker, he also was an author of world renown. His more recent works include *Your California Garden and Mine* and *Iris for Every Garden*. While other flowers interested him from time to time, it was the love for the tall bearded iris, brought with him from Canada when he moved to California, that remained with him until his final illness.

He was active in the affairs of the AIS for many years and was a frequent contributor to the Bulletin. Prof. Mitchell was one of the sixteen writers who contributed to the Society's publication *The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial*. Until very recently he was chairman of the Species Committee and for many years was Custodian of the California division of the Farr Memorial Library. His interest in breeding dates back to his association with the late William Mohr in the late 1920's. While his hybridizing work embraced a wide field, it was in the development of the large plicata and the large tetraploid yellow that he attained his greatest success.



The Society's loss is irreplaceable in the death of this great man—horticulturist, hybridizer, writer, speaker, wit, and above all else, thinker—but the greatest loss is to those who were fortunate enough to have studied and worked under him and to those close to him who knew him and loved him as a friend.

# Random Comments

HARRY J. RANDALL, C.B.E.

(Formerly President of The Iris Society)

When your Editor asks me for an article for the AIS BULLETIN I have no option but to write one in accordance with his instructions. During the past few years prominent members of your Society have written most interesting articles for our Iris Year Book, and we admit to a fondness for fishing in American literary waters. It is an honour to be asked to reciprocate by supplying something for one of your Bulletins.

I am sometimes asked how long I have been growing irises, and when I reply "A mere 20 years" I find that my questioner, who has perhaps been growing them for 25 years, looks at me with a slight touch of condescension. This does not embarrass me, however, because I have twice visited U.S.A. in iris time, and an extensive tour of American iris gardens in full bloom will usually give one more knowledge and experience of irises than could be gained during endless years spent in many another country. Having met the raisers of most of the recent Dykes Medal winners in America, and after being entertained in very many of your gardens, I have no special feeling of inferiority in discussing irises.

The way you Americans travel about in April and May each year fills me with awe and admiration. A thousand-mile trip by road is almost a common feature of the iris season; and journeys by air across half the continent are regarded as incidents. In 1950 I was taken by my friends Jesse Wills and Geddes Douglas for a long trip from Nashville to Memphis, Little Rock and back again; and what a grand time we had! I shall always remember the night we spent in an Alamo Plaza motel situated near a level crossing. All through the night we heard the warnings of approaching trains, and the amount of sleep we had is anybody's guess; but next day we carried on as fresh as ever. You need to be tough to travel in America during the iris season, but the pleasure and interest you derive is greatly worth while.

In May last two friends of mine were walking round the garden of the British Embassy in Washington. One was the wife of the Ambassador and the other was a visitor from my home county of Surrey. They came to a couple of vacant flower beds, and Lady Franks asked her visitor what he advised for those beds. At once came the answer, "Oh, you ought to fill them with irises. I'll get Harry Randall to send you some plants from his garden." The advice was accepted and the ground prepared; but I had other ideas about sending large quantities of



The main iris border in Randall Garden, Surrey, England. from Kodachrome by H.J.R.

irises from Woking to Washington. I promptly wrote to several of my American friends, asking them to help me by supplying rhizomes for the Embassy garden, and they did so, willingly and generously. It is possible that with typical American thoroughness they sent a few too many; but the show of bloom in Washington next May should be wonderful. Sir Oliver Franks and his wife are delighted at this expression of American goodwill, and I am more than pleased with the result of the friendly arrangement.

To show that gifts of irises can have happy results on both sides of the Atlantic I may mention that on my first visit to America someone, in telling of his keen admiration of Winston Churchill, expressed a hope that some of the newer irises might find their way into the garden of this Englishman who had an American mother. I remembered the conversation and in 1950 I gladly sent several hundred rhizomes to the Churchill garden at Chartwell. It so happened that in April, 1951, Mrs. Churchill underwent an operation, and she was sent home to convalesce just as the irises were beginning to flower. The pleasure she derived was unbounded and she asked me to tell American iris growers how much she appreciated their flowers and their kind thought in wanting her and her husband to have some of the new varieties. I am hoping that next year I shall be able to send some

rhizomes to Sulgrave, the English home of the Washington family, and Jordans where William Penn and his wife are buried and where there is the barn made from the timbers of The Mayflower.

People sometimes ask me what are the differences between iris-growing in America and England, and I reply on the following lines. Whilst in England a larger proportion of the population have gardens and grow irises of some kind, there are more hybridizers in America and more people who grow irises on the grand scale. You have to endure greater extremes of climate, a fact which probably leads to new varieties with considerable weather-resistance. During recent years you have been able to hybridize with irises which show great improvement over those with which English growers have had to work, and in the result you have been able to achieve a higher standard than we have reached. Then you have growers who experiment in unusual fields of work and who thereby raise new and fascinating seedlings. You have a well organized Iris Society whose annual conventions and quarterly bulletins are splendid pieces of work; and your system of judging irises is as near perfection as any system could be. On the other hand we in England have certain advantages. Our travelling distances are very much shorter, and as iris growing is largely confined to the South of England, people can visit gardens without undue strain. The shows of the Royal Horticultural Society and of our own Iris Society provide an easy way of seeing collections or seedlings from amateur and professional growers. The trees and shrubs which are grown in most English gardens form admirable settings for irises of all kinds, and we make good use of streams and ponds for water-loving species. Conditions vary considerably in America and England but I find much to commend in both countries. If my time and money were sufficient for the purpose I should like to fly to California each April to see the first of the tall bearded irises in flower, then dash across America to Wichita Falls, Spartanburg and Nashville, travel north to Roanoke and other pleasant places, then fly back home for the English season, and return to America to call in at Staten Island, Iowa and Wilmette before ending the season in New England and Canada. It would be a perfect tour, and I should not need more than six months in hospital to recuperate.

At the 1951 Iris Show in London we had a series of fine exhibits from growers of all kinds. Species were well in evidence, including some Douglasiana hybrids from California; but the great majority of the flowers shown were tall bearded varieties. During the show an experienced grower said to me, "Well, the American invasion has been successful," and he was right. Although there were several large exhibits of the older British irises which undoubtedly made a brave show, most of the varieties on view were of American origin, and they

were the ones which created the greatest interest. This fact caused me slight amusement because when some of us begin to import American irises during and immediately after the last war we were met with a few frowns and sad predictions. Irises raised in U.S.A., we were told, would not grow well in England; and even if they did we ought to consider those people who had their gardens or nurseries filled with pre-war varieties which they wanted to dispose of, not unprofitably, to the gardening public. Unimpressed and undeterred, we went on importing new varieties and hybridizing from them; and now we find that nurseries are pensioning off the older irises and are making every effort to meet the growing demand for better things. It has been a mild and pleasant revolution from which all sensible gardeners will benefit.

Being always interested to hear of varieties which have proved their worth as parents I should like to see a symposium conducted to ascertain the 25 (or 50) best irises to use in hybridizing. It would not be sufficient to be told that Dr. Kleinsorge worked wonders with Far West, Dave Hall with Morocco Rose or Dr. Graves with Gudrun. These are old varieties which have now been bettered. Hybridizers would like to know which of the newer varieties have done well in a parental way. As a small contribution to the discussion I would say that Black Forest is a wonderful producer of dark varieties. The pollen of Melodist has given some splendid browns. Cherie, that worthy winner of the Dykes Medal this year, gives varied and beautiful pinks. New Snow produces excellent whites; and so I could go on. Perhaps the finest batch of seedlings I have ever raised came from Helen McGregor x Cahokia, most of them being pale blue and a few white. In some article on irises I once read that Helen McGregor was not a good parent, and I wondered if the writer had ever tried his hand with that outstanding iris. In both America and England it has given seedlings of the highest quality, and we are now finding that one of its seedlings, Jane Phillips, is equally good as a parent. Will someone please tell me which are the best parents for medium and dark blues. Out of hundreds of seedlings from Blue Ensign I have had nothing worth while. Pierre Menard and Gulf Stream are very promising and may be the parents I am looking for; but will they give me a row of Dykes Medal winners? That, as Hamlet would say, is the question.

In some ways the 1951 iris season in England was disappointing. The previous summer had been so wet and lacking in sunshine that many farm crops had rotted in the fields; and the intervening winter had been cold and also very wet. This unpleasant combination of unusual weather resulted in the death of some English and American irises from rhizome rot and in the loss of flowering fans on newly-planted rhizomes. They seemed to give up the struggle and fade away. It therefore happened that whilst we certainly had inspiring displays of bloom we did

not have as many flowers as we should have had under normal conditions. The summer of 1951 has similarly been wet and almost sunless, and I am wondering what next season will bring forth. A few days ago—I am writing this in September, 1951—Stafford Jory from California was visiting my garden, and he was surprised to see so much lush growth in the iris beds, with tall and vivid green leaves. He commented that in his own garden the rhizomes would be baked hard and the leaves dried up by the sun. And that will probably be the reason why every plant in California will flower next year whilst I shall be moaning over my losses. Fortunately the climatic pendulum swings, and we look forward to a return of more seasonable weather.

Having now grown some of the new dwarf irises from America I can understand why they are rapidly growing in favour. They show an immense improvement over the older dwarfs, and they seem to be vigorous in growth. I do not know who raised Beauty Spot but that person ought to be congratulated on such an achievement. Next season we shall have more dwarf varieties in full bloom, and I predict a warm welcome for them in England.

Articles in your Bulletins do not seem complete unless they contain some varietal comments; and I generally read these with real interest. But I suggest that some of the comments too closely resemble brief catalogue descriptions. It is not enough to describe a well-known iris as "a nice pink" or "a pale blue." Readers like to hear how an iris grows, how it compares with other varieties, and so on. I should like to tell of a few of the newer American irises which flowered this year in England. In doing so I must emphasise that because of our weather some varieties either did not flower at all or sent up very short stems containing only two or three small flowers and so could not be properly judged.

**Argus Pheasant.** We may perhaps have better browns in the years to come, but after seeing this variety flower in both U.S.A. and England I regard it as the finest brown yet introduced. Needless to say, I used its pollen and gave some to other hybridizers.

**Chiquita.** A taller, larger and more brightly coloured iris than our old friend Amigo. These near-amoenas give a touch of high quality to any collection.

**Gay Orchid.** This had previously been nothing but a name to me. Its soft orchid colouring, similar to that of Radiation, was most attractive, and it withstood plenty of hot sunshine.

**General Patton.** More of a reddish brown than I remembered it after my American visit of 1950. Its colouring and fine shape will make it popular over here.

**Gold Sovereign.** The most vividly coloured of any yellow or orange iris. I dislike the word "sensational" when applied to a flower, but it



Newly imported American varieties begin their English visit flanked by shrubs and  
in front of large horse chestnut tree.  
from Kodachrome by H.J.R.

could almost be used in describing this new introduction from Mapleton.

Hearts Desire. A rose-red with unusually velvety falls. Unlike most of the reddish irises now being grown, and an excellent variety.

Heather Rose. Another of the new family of soft orchid-pinks, and when established it might prove to be the best.

Helen Collingwood. Grows vigorously in my sandy soil and is an outstanding variety. Somewhat similar to Rumba Rose but has paler standards. Visitors to my garden like them both.

Helen McKenzie. Undoubtedly a very fine and pure white—a classic variety—but I prefer whites with more ruffling. Some of my friends have different views, and they talk me into silence.

Heritage. One of the newest and finest pinks to flower for me this year. I look forward to having a clump of it, and to comparing it with Pink Formal which should flower nicely next season.

Jane Phillips. This has been criticised for having too large a flower for the height of the stem; but I find it a satisfying iris to grow. It flowers freely, is immensely vigorous, and deserves the A.M. which it won at Wisley this year.

Lady Ilse. A seedling from Jane Phillips which flowered on a very short stem. Even so, it showed itself to be a beautifully ruffled pale blue.

Mary Randall. I ought not to comment on this, perhaps, but as I

did not raise it I might be forgiven for describing it as a splendid break in colour and one of the best of all irises. Its pollen is amazingly fertile.

Maytime. Provided real excitement when it first opened. A rose-pink amoena, quite unlike any iris I have ever seen. Its colouring is most attractive, and I hope that it has sufficient substance for all kinds of weather.

Melody Lane. This flowers as well in England as it does in America. A tall apricot pink with great garden value.

Morning Blue. One of the first of the Californian crosses from Purissima x Capitola to flower here. Exceptionally fine and stately, but it may dislike our wet summers—as I do.

Peg DeBagh. Another of the same origin but with more of the onco in its make-up. A fine acquisition which has been much admired. We look forward to others of the same vintage.

Star Shine. Mr. Pilkington declared that he could not fault this iris. It grows tall, has perfect branching, and its substance is like stiff leather. I hope that it will transmit these virtues to its seedlings.

Sunset Blaze. Another variety that seems to like our conditions; and what a display its salmon-flame colour makes in the garden!

The Spartan. A tough, flaring, yellow variety raised by the late Dr. Graves and named as a compliment to Louise Blake of Spartanburg. With me it is grand, and I hope that it will be introduced.

Thotmes III. A golden-tan iris which helped me to win the AIS Silver Medal at our Iris Show in London this year. So far it has not been a vigorous grower, but as a flower I place it in the top rank.

Tranquility. A pure white seedling from Snow Flurry. Does not have as much ruffling as its famous parent but it is a larger and finer flower, and has better branching.

Truly Yours. This always attracts attention whether in the garden or on the show bench. Its pedigree, which merits careful study, indicates to me that Zantha is a good parent—a fact which was borne out in my own seedling bed this year.

The 25 varieties commented upon above were successful in withstanding the worst that the English weather could offer. Next year they should flower in even better style, and they will be joined by equally new and by newer varieties raised in both America and England. On our television in England we sometimes see fashion parades from London and Paris, but these are trifles when compared with the annual parade of new irises; and those of us who prefer ruffled flowers to ruffled crinolines have much pleasure ahead of us. This pleasure is increased when we read in your Bulletins of the conventions, round-robbins, and the various regional activities of your Society in America. Long may the good work continue!

# MEET ME IN SAINT LOUIS

W. F. SCOTT, JR., Mo.

Well, no, it won't be another World's Fair—but it will be fun! The 1952 Annual Meeting, that is.

The dates are May 18-19-20 and, barring a complete upset in normal weather schedules, they should be just exactly right.

The headquarters will be Hotel Chase—at the corner of Kingshighway and Lindell Boulevards, at the northeast corner of Forest Park. Send your requests for room reservations directly to the Chase Hotel, to the attention of Mr. Bob Ross, Sales Manager. Rates at the Chase are \$5.00 and up, single—or \$7.00 and up, double.

Close to the Chase, and under the same management, are the Forest Park Hotel with rates \$4.00 single, and \$6.00 double—and the Park Plaza, with rates \$6.00 single and \$9.00 double. Should you prefer either of these, Mr. Ross will gladly handle your reservation request.

Because of the central location of St. Louis, we expect a great many of you will drive to the meeting. You may wish to stay at a motor court rather than at a hotel. If so, drop a note to our Regional Secretary, and she will provide you with a list of good motor courts which are not too remote. St. Louis is a spread-out city, and all motor courts are pretty well out on the edges, but there are good ones on arterial roads, which will get you in to the Chase without undue trouble. You'll have to make your own reservations at the court of your choice but for a list of good ones, write to:

Mrs. Walter Buxton, 817 South Sappington Road, Webster Groves 19, Missouri.

The meeting will start officially at noon, Sunday, May 18—when the first bus will depart from the Chase Hotel. That afternoon you will see two excellent iris gardens, and the world famous Shaw's Garden—The St. Louis headquarters of the Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Sunday evening there will be meetings of various committees, the regular meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Regional Vice-Presidents. There will also be an informal gathering and showing of slides at the Chase Hotel.

Monday morning, bright and early, the busses will start leaving the Chase Hotel at 7:30 A.M.—so bring your alarm clock! That day there will be visits to five iris gardens and a picnic lunch in the largest of them. A full day!

Monday evening there will be a dinner at the Chase Hotel—and interesting guest speakers.

Tuesday—busses at 7:30 again!!! How much sleep can you lose? But the schedule will be easier this day—only four iris gardens—

so that the busses can be back at the hotel a little earlier to give everyone a chance to rest up a little before the Annual Banquet.

This is always the highpoint of the Annual Meeting—for in addition to the usual business reports to the membership each Annual Banquet is highlighted by the President's address—distinguished guest speakers—and the announcement of awards made during the year. Award Certificates are handed to the recipients, and the results of the balloting for the President's Cup are announced and the cup awarded to its new holder. This cup was presented to the Society by Dr. Franklin Cook, in 1947. Dr. Cook at that time was President of the Society and he created the President's Cup competition that year. This award is made to the most outstanding display of a duly named and introduced iris variety seen in a garden on the program of the Annual Meeting. Each member casts a ballot at the end of the garden visits. The results are announced at the banquet. The winner retains the cup for one year, then relinquishes it to the next winner: but is given a miniature of it to keep.

Winners of the President's Cup at past Annual Meetings have been: Zantha, 1947; Amandine, 1948; Sunset Blaze, 1949; Blue Rhythm, 1950 and Royal Gem (Louisiana), 1951.

So, with the Annual Banquet, the meeting will close. We are working and planning energetically, so that each of you will have a most enjoyable visit here in St. Louis.

We know you will see great quantities of new and worth-while irises for our committees have been working with hybridizers and growers the country over for the past three years, no less—to bring here varieties which are new and worth while, and to grow them properly, so that the bloom you will see next year is as typical as possible. Many irises do not do their best the first year after moving—so as many of our guest irises as possible were brought in two seasons ago, and have been given every chance to establish themselves.

You will see over 300 of these guest irises. Most of them still under number. They are from all parts of the country—from every serious hybridizer we could locate, and persuade to send them here. Of course, that's not all the irises you will see! Those are just the "Guests"—the "Extras"—being grown, for the most part, in special display beds. In the several gardens on the program you will see just about anything you are looking for in the way of tall bearded irises.

But look closely at those "Guests"—for among them will be the Dykes Medal winners of several years hence! You will be seeing irises which very few other people will see for some years to come. They are the very newest! They may, or may not, be the best—only time, and your opinions, will tell that!

For those of you who plan to drive, the location of St. Louis offers

almost endless possibilities for extending the iris season.

Consider these centers of iris growing when you lay your plans: Carbondale, Chicago, Piper City, Illinois; Bluffton, Elkhart, Vincennes, Indiana; Cincinnati, Ohio; Owensboro, Kentucky; Memphis, Tennessee; Little Rock, Arkansas; Springfield, Joplin, Kansas City, Columbia, Jefferson City, St. Joseph, Kirksville, Missouri; Omaha, Nebraska; Des Moines, Iowa.

Check your route and if it lies close to any of those centers, by all means plan visits on the way. You can double the pleasure of your trip by looking at gardens enroute. A look at the membership list will give you the names and addresses of members in the above centers—or if you are pressed for time, drop a note to our Regional Secretary, and we'll look up the data for you.

The Registration Fee will be \$20 per person and it will include bus transportation for the three days, lunch on Monday, the dinner Monday night, lunch on Tuesday and the Annual Banquet Tuesday night.

What if you drive your own car and do not wish to ride the busses? Well, there will be no saving in the Registration Fee, as the busses are contracted for in advance—and we believe you'll have a lot more fun if you put your car away and ride the busses. St. Louis is very spread-out and the traffic can get real mean at times. Ride the busses, relax and visit with friends you see only once a year!

You are invited to register in advance—to save time when you get here. You can send your \$20 with your advance registration, or not, as you wish.

No, it won't be another World's Fair—but we'll try to have a lot of fun!!

*Write now—*

#### FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Mr. Bob Ross, Sales Manager  
Hotel Chase,  
St. Louis, Missouri

#### FOR ADVANCE REGISTRATION—FOR MOTOR COURT INFORMATION

Mrs. Walter Buxton  
817 South Sappington Road  
Webster Groves 19, Missouri

REMEMBER THE DATES: May 18-19-20

## OUR JUDGES SUGGEST

R. S. STURTEVANT, Tenn.

Recently a letter was sent to the Accredited Judges of the AIS. The letter solicited constructive criticism of current practices in conducting the affairs of the Society and asked for suggestions designed to cure certain shortcomings with a view of creating more member interest. The letter was predicated upon the view that if a member was a judge then that member would have a little more than average concern about the affairs of the Society and would be willing to do something about it.

Four hundred and seventy-five letters were sent out and by the time of the Directors' meeting less than a week later some one hundred and thirty replies were received.

Such a response might be termed overwhelming. The letters were carefully thought out and showed clearly the intense interest of the writers. Mr. R. S. Sturtevant, assisting Mr. W. F. Scott, Chairman of the Membership Committee, gives us the following analysis (EDITOR'S NOTE).

The heartening response of 25% of the Accredited Judges to a recent questionnaire gave me a welcome opportunity to at least help out at the office again in a rather unofficial way.

Naturally Judges are both human and members so it was natural that their letters should reflect the prevalent viewpoint as well as their own keen interest in the AIS. Their interest centered on its steady growth and continued emphasis was placed on local activities. That, in many variations, was a primary theme song and a careful review of the last reports of the Regional Vice-Presidents (as published in Bulletin 123) elaborates many of the detailed suggestions.

One Judge thought the questionnaire itself gave the answers "too much high pressure and baited additions to the membership total" often resulting in too few renewals, a lack that showed up more the second year than the first. This, though, might be laid to our friend inflation as an underlying cause beyond our control.

Roughly the letters fall into two groups probably reflecting the personalities of the individuals. One lot told at length their own varied efforts and the results (56 new members in one case) but deemed them impractical to continue. The other lot of Judges, who probably had more experience, gave the majority of organized suggestions. These were rarely different but often more simply expressed.

"A judge should make himself *available*" stuck in my mind and suggested (a new idea to me) that some thought judges should not only be judges but also friendly salesmen for the AIS! The complaint that small isolated gardens with seedlings were handicapped was no new

problem. But it should be remembered that our leaders are busy people during iris season and often find it impossible to set the example needed and our whole set-up must remain on a voluntary basis. The office can do more or less in giving credit where it is due; it can recommend but it must avoid personalities and the appearance of penalties to its utmost.

Within the emphasis on Local Activity, Shows head the list with out-of-season Get-togethers, "Pilgrimages; and Open Gardens." Of the many "premium undertakings to get new members," that of "Door Prizes" to invited guests seemed to me the least arduous and, at least in season, the most productive. The use of roots as prizes for certain classes at shows dates away back and also the recommendation that they should be offered by amateurs and not by Commercial Growers.

In quoting other good suggestions I shall do it anonymously as the pages of the Bulletin are open to any who wish to air constructive views.

"Judges can and SHOULD visit gardens" "meet pleasantly other visitors" "speak of the advantages of AIS membership, preferably not harp on the high priced novelties" (or the wonders they have got by exchange or cash).

### **Judging an Honor?**

"Put the Accredited Judges of the Society to work." "Weed out the Regional Vice-Presidents who fail to make good." As one of the first officers I wish to point out how impractical either of these strong measures appear to be. Despite our growth there still remain vast regions desperately needing judges and yet low in members. The mere fact that no judge mentioned his job as an honor shows how little we have to offer prospective judges. Also despite suggestions that a few more regions be split, any arbitrary drawing of lines is more political than climatic and representation based on population creates both a changing basis and a greatly increased overhead. Even the excellent rule of changing officers every three years can conceivably add to the list of dead heads. Any office has its honorary side, but activity in the job can all too easily assume alarming proportions. In other words finding people to accept a nomination remains enough of a problem without attempting to prescribe a definite code of action. We assume a citizen will vote and that a nominee will have his own ideas as to his obligations as an officer. That the AIS has often been most fortunate in its members and is currently so, is not a policy to be imperiled carelessly.

You can easily see that this answering of so many good letters has a pleasant nostalgia. New members may find it hard to realize that when founded thirty years go, the AIS was the size of many a present region and that the problems now duplicate the original ones.

In this review it is clear that few new members can be directly represented but indirectly there are reports as usual that the Bulletin is too High-brow, etc.; that officers and judges flock together at meetings; that "I lost a new member when she heard the prices of good irises"; that many prefer a plant to a magazine and from one experienced member, that the cost of local plus national dues was too much for many a prospective fan. One small commercial member said frankly that he was answering promptly before the questionnaire got buried on his desk but gave facts and figures to prove the business advantage of the AIS and his active build up of local iris interest. We owe much to commercial members for their catalogue offers and publicity but I was not surprised to find that few found time to answer the questionnaire.

It seems clear that such a discussion as this will lead to more understanding among our much valued new members and will develop some desirable changes in our methods. Our unprecedented size in itself enhances our obligations and may require reinterpretation of duties or recommendations as outlined in our charter. The very volume of response proves that we are alive and a growing entity—the difficulty is to adjust to our growing pains and be prepared for more growth and to develop a better system of maintaining the local enthusiasm upon which our Society must still rest firmly.

The letters touched all phases of our existing set up and I personally am none too familiar with all the current procedures but have been given a new impetus to work toward our common goal. That so many letters were from old members gave me a feeling of being on friendly terms again after a too long absence. A seed sown strives to mature and the 120 odd letters tell of hundreds of seeds sown most generously throughout our country.

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***In Memoriam***  
**HERBERT L. DOZIER, SR.**

Herbert L. Dozier, Sr., 56, prominent employee of the U. S. Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service on the Southwestern Louisiana Institute Campus died in Lafayette, Louisiana on December 4. Dr. Dozier had his masters degree from Florida University and his doctors degree from Ohio State University in general science.

Dr. Dozier was known for his work with dahlias and tall bearded iris before coming to Louisiana from Maryland two and a half years ago. He was an active member of the American Iris Society and since moving to Lafayette had become active in the Society for Louisiana Irises. His variety, Lady Dozier, an onco-bearded hybrid has received much favorable comment.

# *“clancy” lowers the boom*

MRS. V. R. FREDERICK, Ohio.

Is it politics? the weather? the war? Or What? I'm sure I don't know what the trouble is, but it seems to be popular to criticise everything. In some respects that is as it should be, since constructive criticism is surely the road to progress.

Others have made it their business to have their "say" in the Bulletin from time to time, so let's again bring a few of these criticisms out in the open. If they are not justified, I'm sure the members of the AIS will be quick to defend present practices. But if such is not the case and these criticisms are worth while, let's mend our ways and at once.

First of all, to all intents and purposes, the AIS has an involved and, on the surface of it, an almost fool-proof method of selecting the iris of the year, the Dykes Medal winner.

And yet, out of 348 ballots cast by 470 judges, Cherie the winner this year, won only 76 votes, roughly 22% of all the votes cast. To my way of thinking, that simply is not enough. One of two things must be wrong. Either Cherie is not grown in enough gardens so that most judges saw it, (and that could be due to its high price in previous years) or else a large percentage of the judges did not believe it worthy of a Dykes when they voted it an Award of Merit in 1949. It is interesting to note that in that year Cherie received 119 votes for the A. M.

Going back to 1949 Helen McGregor won with only 26% of the judges' votes.

I have grown "Helen" in my garden for three years and not a sign of a bloom yet. In other gardens in this area the same has been true. Either they have had no bloom, or very little bloom. Is that the performance we can expect from a Dykes Medal Winner?

I have seen Helen McGregor in bloom on only one occasion—and I am not a "stay-at-home" during the iris season! On the one occasion I observed this iris, it showed truly wonderful substance, and quite a lot of bloom, although the blooms were quite pale. The grower of this clump said he had been disappointed the first year or so he had grown it. That was the first year in which its performance came up to the critics comments.

Now, I realize it's not very sporting to take "Helen" over the coals, but I am using her only as an example of something wrong in the method of selecting a Dykes. Or am I expecting too much? If I am expecting too much, and it is ever to be thus, then I certainly shall stop attaching so much importance to the award.

Nor do I "lower the boom" without a few suggestions, for what

they may be worth, to help remedy this situation. In the beginning, I do not believe any of this is the fault of the judges of the AIS. It is the fault of the system.

First, the rules allow too many irises to receive High Commendations and Honorable Mentions. If I've counted correctly, there were 51 H. M.'s in 1950 and 37 in 1951; 42 H. C.'s in 1950 and 50 in 1951. I flatly deny there were that many new irises which were so much better, more distinctive or more hardy and vigorous than varieties already in commerce. Then why did judges vote so many Honorable Mentions and High Commendations? Again, it is the fault of the system.

I believe, it is because only 12 votes in the whole country are required for an H. M. and only 5 for an H. C. And each judge may make 14 recommendations for an H. M., for example.

## 1951 a Good Example

Let's look at the awards in 1951. Had the requirements been 24 votes for Honorable Mention (and certainly that's not too many, when one considers there are 470 judges) instead of 12, only 8 tall bearded iris would have received the award instead of 37. That's more like it. There probably were 8 irises enough better and different from existing varieties to have been worthy of a place in the iris world.

Then, too, in selecting a Dykes, let's require at least 1/3 of the votes cast. This should not be too many, since varieties eligible would be fewer, with fewer H. M.'s, etc. If one third of the judges can't agree, no Dykes. Let the judges look another year.

Growers of new iris may immediately protest that it is difficult for all judges to see all the varieties eligible for the award. I feel that most judges would have little trouble seeing all the new varieties and how they grow in their own particular area, especially if the introductory prices were not prohibitive.

However, if it seems impossible in private gardens the country over, let's establish some test gardens, much as the American Rose Society does. One such offer of land, care, etc., was made in this Region, but I have heard nothing of it since the offer was made. Perhaps it was frowned upon by growers. Irises increase (or should!) at such a rate that no hybridizer should lose much by supplying a rhizome for testing. Nor need he worry too much about his creation being "stolen," if more stringent rules are enforced in awarding H. M.'s and H. C.'s. It would, of course, take a variety more years to reach the top, but in the meantime, it would have been thoroughly tested.

Therefore, to cut down the number of varieties and raise the quality, let's vote less awards. And all that can be left to the judges. In fact, I believe the betterment of iris varieties is entirely in the hands of the judges. The hybridizers and the commercial growers cannot, and will

not, ignore the opinion of the judges.

As I see it, the work of the judges would be easier under such a set-up. They might be required to become more critical, it's true, but they would have fewer varieties to judge.

I also believe that concentration on the real improvement of varieties and iris culture will help solve the ever-present question of how to retain new members in the Society, the second "spot" for criticism. However, let me say, first of all, that retaining members in the AIS is a matter of personal contact. I learned that from my own experience.

When I became a member, I did so because I wanted some specialized knowledge about the culture of irises. Soon after I joined, I was invited to join an iris Round Robin. I did, but I was scared to pieces. I felt I was such a novice. How I ever wrote that first letter for the Robin, I don't know. But through the Robin, I was encouraged to attend a Regional meeting. After that, it was all over—I had irisitis, and it's a chronic disease, I'm afraid.

I'm wondering, though, what might have been my reaction if I hadn't been invited to join a Robin and *personally* invited to go to a Regional Meeting, encouraged to take an active part in the AIS. Would I have dropped out, too? I think I probably would have. Because I learned a great deal more iris culture from meeting and talking to other iris growers at one meeting than I have from all the Bulletins.

So - o - o, the boom is lowered once more. But, also once more, let's see if there aren't some constructive criticisms.

### What Is Bulletin's Aim?

First, what is the aim of the Bulletins. Is it solely to supply hybridizers with information? Or to encourage beginners and those who just "grow iris"? It's for both, of course. But I do believe we have leaned a little toward the hybridizers' side, not only in the actual process of producing new varieties but in allowing so much space of each issue to be concerned only with seedlings, under number. Beginners don't give a "hoot" about numbers. What they want to know is, how do the various varieties perform? Not just a comment such as, "Huge, blue flower," etc., but did it last through noon the first day it was open? Did it go mushy after the first sprinkle of rain? Is it susceptible to leaf spot or rot?

These questions and problems are ones with which I've had experience. I have, in the past two years, been asked to speak to various clubs on the culture, varieties, etc., of iris. And here's a sample of how the lecture goes. How would you answer their questions?

There's a blue iris on the screen and I say, "This is a good blue, down within the price range of everyone."

"Do you have it?" they ask.

“Yes.”

“Does it look like the picture?”

“Yes,” I reply. (It has had some rot each year. I’ve always been able to clear it up with treatment. One year all the buds were killed by a late frost, which, however, didn’t hurt most other varieties.) I had answered the question but since these persons are not iris specialists, just want “a few good ones,” have I erred by not speaking?

Another slide. “This is——, one of the newer tangerine bearded pinks.”

“Why, that’s not MY idea of pink!” say the garden club members. (They’re right, it isn’t pink. So I explain that it’s about as pink as we have come in in irises. But they will get better.)

A red iris on the screen. Oh’s and Ah’s all over the place.

“Gorgeous,” says the garden club, “Is it true to the picture?”

“Yes, it is,” I reply. (Should I go ahead and say that that flower opened in the morning, I took the picture about 10 o’clock and that at 12 noon, the standards had completely collapsed. Certainly not worthy of an H. M.—but it got one.)

I believe those who grow iris would more than welcome a truly critical review of new varieties. And I don’t believe that varieties worthy of introduction at all, would be hurt by such a report. The perfect iris is yet to be created. We all know that.

But let us know the faults. If the branching is not too good, tell us, so it can be planted a little back in the border, so that its beautiful color can be seen but the bad branching masked a little. Tell us, so that the smaller, perfectly formed flower can be planted right next to the path. If a new variety cannot establish itself in spite of its faults, then it shouldn’t have been introduced. I’ll bet the hybridizers would be surprised at what we “just growers” could do to display better their progeny, if we knew what to expect.

Then, second, even though it’s “old stuff,” to the more experienced growers, let’s have at least one nice, long article in each Bulletin on the culture of irises. Don’t forget the articles on hybridizing bore the small grower, too. For example, in the October, 1951 Bulletin, one page on culture “Mulching Iris” was the total, complete advice for growing irises given in the entire issue. (It was a good article and well worth trying. But was it enough?)

Then, last but not least, let’s try to stop confusing the prospective members. How many of you have tried to stand before a group and try to explain the meaning of the terms, amoena, neglecta, variegata, plicata, etc.? I realize there are scientific reasons behind the placing of varieties in such classes, but is it really necessary?

The reclassification of daffodils recently should teach us a lesson. Already, we are getting deeper and deeper into difficulty classifying

irises, i.e., if Pinnacle is not an amoena, what is it? I don't think it matters. The answer simply should be, Pinnacle has white standards, creamy yellow falls with some haft markings. That says it, so why confuse us by trying to classify it?

In closing, let me say, again, that although it may seem that I have been much, much too critical, criticisms are not aimed at any one person, individuals, or judges, hybridizers, or any one else. My full intention is to suggest some possible changes which may help judges and better our whole Society.

And I truly have fears for the future of the AIS, if we cannot encourage quality, not quantity, in new introductions and new, interested members. Fanatics we are and there's no doubt about it, and progress we must, but let us do it with our feet on a firm foundation.

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## **DUES INCREASED**

NOTICE: We have been notified by Mr. N. Leslie Cave, Secretary-Treasurer of The Iris Society (England) that there will be a slight increase in dues for that Society beginning in 1952. The new membership rate is \$3.00 per year. For your convenience payments may be made direct to this office.

## **THE IRIS—SOLD OUT!**

In 1947 the AIS published the first edition of 5,000 copies of *The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial*. These were exhausted by 1949 and a second and revised edition of 1,500 copies was printed. At this writing we have exactly enough copies remaining to fill the orders on hand with five additional copies to be kept in our files. To be sold out is a new experience.

## **1949 CHECK LIST**

In response to numerous requests from members who pointed out that it was extremely difficult to look up an iris name, the Board of Directors, in 1949, authorized the publication of a new check list. The central office in undertaking the job realized fully that it was a difficult task. The work progressed slowly but was finally finished in the fall of 1951. The Society has two thousand-five hundred of these books, attractively bound, wrapped in tissue, boxed and ready to ship. Also the Society has between three and four thousand good hard earned dollars invested in them.

Every member should own one of these 1949 Check Lists. In this volume of 262 pages will be found the complete records of the Registrar for the ten year period from 1939 to 1949. Why not order your copy today? The price is \$2.50. And please do not forget, the new address is—FRANKLIN ROAD, BRENTWOOD, Tennessee.

# Region Nine Celebrates!

JERRY DONAHUE, RVP

The 1951 Fall Luncheon of Region 9 was held at the Charter Room of the Chicago Bar Association, on Saturday, September 22. This is an annual event, at which the members of the region gather to break bread, swap garden experiences, tell lies about their seedlings, and to enjoy seeing the Kodachromes that the photographic wizards bring along with them.

This year was something special, as our five AIS award winners for 1951 were honored at this luncheon. This was truly Region Nine's day to celebrate. We were proud indeed to have all five winners with us on that day, and especially proud of our Dykes Medal winner, David F. Hall, who won this highest honor in the iris world with his beautiful flamingo pink Cherie.

The other Award winners were Orville Fay, winner of the Award of Merit for Truly Yours; Eva Faught, Award of Merit winner with Cahokia; Dr. Franklin Cook, winner of an Honorable Mention with his Northwestern; and E. L. Hodson, another Honorable Mention winner with his dwarf iris, Path of Gold.

Orville Fay also had two iris in Dykes Medal Runner-up positions, New Snow and Desert Song. Dave Hall also won the Award of Merit on Heritage, while Orville Fay's Zantha was Runner-up in this class. Dave Hall won again in the Honorable Mention group with Ballerina, Heather Rose, and Sunray, with Orville Fay also scoring in this group with Black Hills and Mary Randall. Another year is sure to see many of these grand iris climb the ladder of success to still higher honors.

After the luncheon of roast turkey was finished, and there was nothing left but the dirty dishes, the five honored guests were presented to the gathering by R.V.P. Jerry Donahue. Each one was asked to give a short talk about how they produced their award winners, and Dave Hall was the first to thrill the audience with his story. He somehow got off the track, telling us about how he was once a famous hog-caller, and we never did learn how to produce a Dykes Medal winner. It was a good story, anyway, as Dave's stories always are.

When all five had been heard, and were found guilty of producing some of the finest iris in the whole world today, the famous quintette was lined up and shot. The shooting was carried out by Nat Rudolph, who not only excels in growing fine iris, but also in taking fine photographs. This was a very serious occasion, as you can see by the accompanying photograph—not a smile in a carload. It was, indeed, a famous group of hybridizers, and we believe Region 9 is fully deserv-



Sheik Hall grimaces amid plaudits of AIS members attending fall meeting of Region 9.

ing of a lot of credit for producing five AIS award winners all in one year.

Dr. Franklin Cook, past AIS president and presently serving as a director of the national organization, then carried out his part of the program, which consisted of specially honoring our Dykes Medal winner. Dr. Cook had previously planted huge strips of lustrous silken cloth among the members of the audience, representing the many different shades of pink irises that Dave Hall's magic hand has produced. He then asked the Dykes Medal winner to step out in front of the speaker's table, and called upon the different members to come up, one by one, and drape the colors on him. This was a very colorful ceremony, and when it was completed, Dave lacked only the well-known dazzling female retinue to fully resemble the Sheik of Araby. The entire assemblage arose in a body, and gave him the biggest ovation probably ever accorded any sheik.

One of the most popular features of the program, and one that is a regular part of these annual gatherings, is the drawing of the door prizes. These prizes consist of iris roots donated by some of the



Hybridizer Fay pauses as photographer shoots the speaker's table. Left to right Eva Faught, Dr. Franklin Cook, Mrs. David Hall, Mr. Hall, R.V.P. Jerry Donahue, Mrs. Donahue, Orville Fay, Mrs. Fay and Hubert Fischer.

members, and this year's offerings included such inconsequential items as Cherie, Truly Yours, Cahokia, Pierre Menard, Northwestern, Tranquility, Melody Lane, Heritage, Sunray, Desert Song, Mary Randall, and many others. Mrs. W. L. Raub drew the lucky numbers out of the hat, while Joe Botts officiated at the black board, handing out the prizes as the winners came up to claim their loot. The donors of all those grand varieties are to be highly commended for their generosity, and for their part in helping to make this annual party a success.

Dr. Franklin Cook recently contributed an excellent article to the AIS Bulletin entitled "Super Iris for \$1.00 or Less." He very kindly consented to give us a review of his article at this time, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone present.

One of our prominent members of the region was seen at the Shreveport meeting last April, skillfully jumping from bog to bog, and photographing those beautiful and exotic Louisiana iris, and thus preserving them for posterity, in full color. This bog-jumping photographer was none other than Hubert Fischer, who became the main speaker of our meeting, giving us a blow-by-blow account of the Shreveport gathering. He followed up with a showing of the Kodachrome shots he brought back with him, and they were beauties. Those of us who were at the annual meeting relived the trip all over again, and we are all indebted to Hubert for his excellent photography and his fine talk.

And so ended our annual meeting. One hundred and thirteen guests participated in making this year's gathering a very enjoyable affair, and we hope our 1952 meeting will bring out still more of the region's 250 members.

# THE CARE AND FEEDING OF GUEST IRISES

W. F. SCOTT, JR. Mo.

With the 1952 Annual Meeting looming on the horizon and with more than 300 "Guest Irises" in town for the Meeting, The St. Louis Iris Group is acutely conscious of just what a Guest Iris is and what responsibilities are connected with it.

I have heard many people ask: "Just what is a Guest Iris, and how do you go about getting them?" Likewise, I've heard a number of sad reports regarding unsatisfactory relations between donor and donee. So a summary of the manner in which the St. Louis Group has handled the matter, together with some simple conclusions to be drawn, might be of interest to a good many members.

First—what is a Guest Iris, and why?

Unless a hybridizer is so well known and his introductions so highly regarded that people will buy from him "sight unseen" there is only one way in which he can persuade people to the opinion that his creations are worth buying: That is by putting out "samples" to people in various parts of the country, so that his wares will be widely seen.

Also, a hybridizer will frequently have a seedling which performs well for him in his own garden but concerning which he is uncertain as regards other sections of the country. This particularly, is true of varieties originating in temperate sections of the country—it is difficult to say what they will do further North, without first growing them there. And still further, it has recently become the custom for hybridizers to send their newest irises, and their most esteemed seedlings, to the site of the Annual Meetings, so that they might be seen by a large number of people in a very short time.

Now just what are the courtesies, and the obligations, due from both parties in the matter of guest irises?

Three years ago, when it became certain that the 1952 Annual Meeting would be held in St. Louis, our Regional organization mailed to every hybridizer making regular introductions an invitation to send Guests to St. Louis for the 1952 Annual Meeting. The Invitation set forth these obligations on both sides:

1. The Guest, and all increase, would remain the property of the Donor, and would be shipped wherever the Donor might request, immediately after the 1952 blooming season.
2. The Guest would be grown in the garden of an Accredited Judge, and would be given the same care as the Judge would give his own irises.
3. The Guest would be grown only in a garden to be on the Official Program of the 1952 meeting, and would be correctly labelled.

4. Although the best of care would be given all Guests, the St. Louis Iris Group would in no way be responsible for damage or destruction of the plant by any cause.
5. Regular reports would be made by the Donee to the Donor, regarding health and increase of plants, judgment of bloom, and opinion of Donee as to the general worth of the plant.

In addition to the above stipulations, Guests were received from many Donors accompanied by specific additional instructions. Some said: "I am particularly anxious to know how the plant behaves in your climate. Please make regular reports." Some said: "The plant is a gift. I do not expect it to be returned." And others: "I will expect the person who grows this for me to return all but one rhizome, which he should keep for his trouble." And there were a few of the same nature, but more specific, who stipulated that while the Donee should keep one rhizome, he must not allow any increase from his rhizome to leave his garden, by gift or by sale, for a period of three years.

There were a few cases where the Donor said: "This is a variety I intend to introduce in 1952 and my stock is very short. It will be necessary for the Donee to return the entire plant, and all increase; and will you request of the Donee that he try to obtain the maximum increase for me."

The reasons behind those various forms of request are all obvious. None of the things asked are unreasonable, when the circumstances causing them are studied.

### **300 Happy Visitors**

We have more than 300 Guest Irises happily growing in St. Louis gardens, and we hope that every one of them will put on a good show next May. We are observing our obligations carefully, and we anticipate complete satisfaction on the part of everyone. Why should there be anything other than complete satisfaction? Only where both parties have not clearly understood, beforehand, just what is expected.

Several times in the past it has been suggested that the Society draw up a standard form of Guest Iris agreement. But that is sort of foolish, I think. If there is not sufficient trust and understanding between Donor and Donee, in the first place, no agreement of any kind would improve the situation. There should be a simple and clear statement on the part of the Donor as to what he expects—and an equally simple and clear statement on the part of the Donee as to what he expects to do—both in advance. That's the important part! Know in advance exactly where you stand! Then there will be no further difficulty.

Maybe you're saying: "That is all very fine, but how do I go about getting such irises?" The person who originates irises—the hybridizer—must want you to have them. The hybridizer must be either your

friend, or a respecter of your prowess as a gardener, or both. The only reasons the hybridizer has for wanting you to have his new creations on a Guest basis (aside from simple friendship) are selfish ones: He wants his new creations to be seen and approved by more people—or he wants to know if they do well in your locality.

And what are your reasons for wanting them? (Again, aside from simple friendship.) Why, they are selfish reasons, of course—you want to have the newest things on view in your garden. You want to see the new things before anyone else does.

Result—two persons, both with selfish motives. And the selfish motives of both can be satisfied with complete harmony only if there is a clear understanding ahead of time.

No, we here in St. Louis are not worried about the “Care and Feeding” of our 300 Guests. We know that there are obligations on both sides, we know what those obligations are, and we will fulfill our part of them.

If all Guest Iris transactions are handled in such manner, there can be no cause for unfortunate misunderstandings.

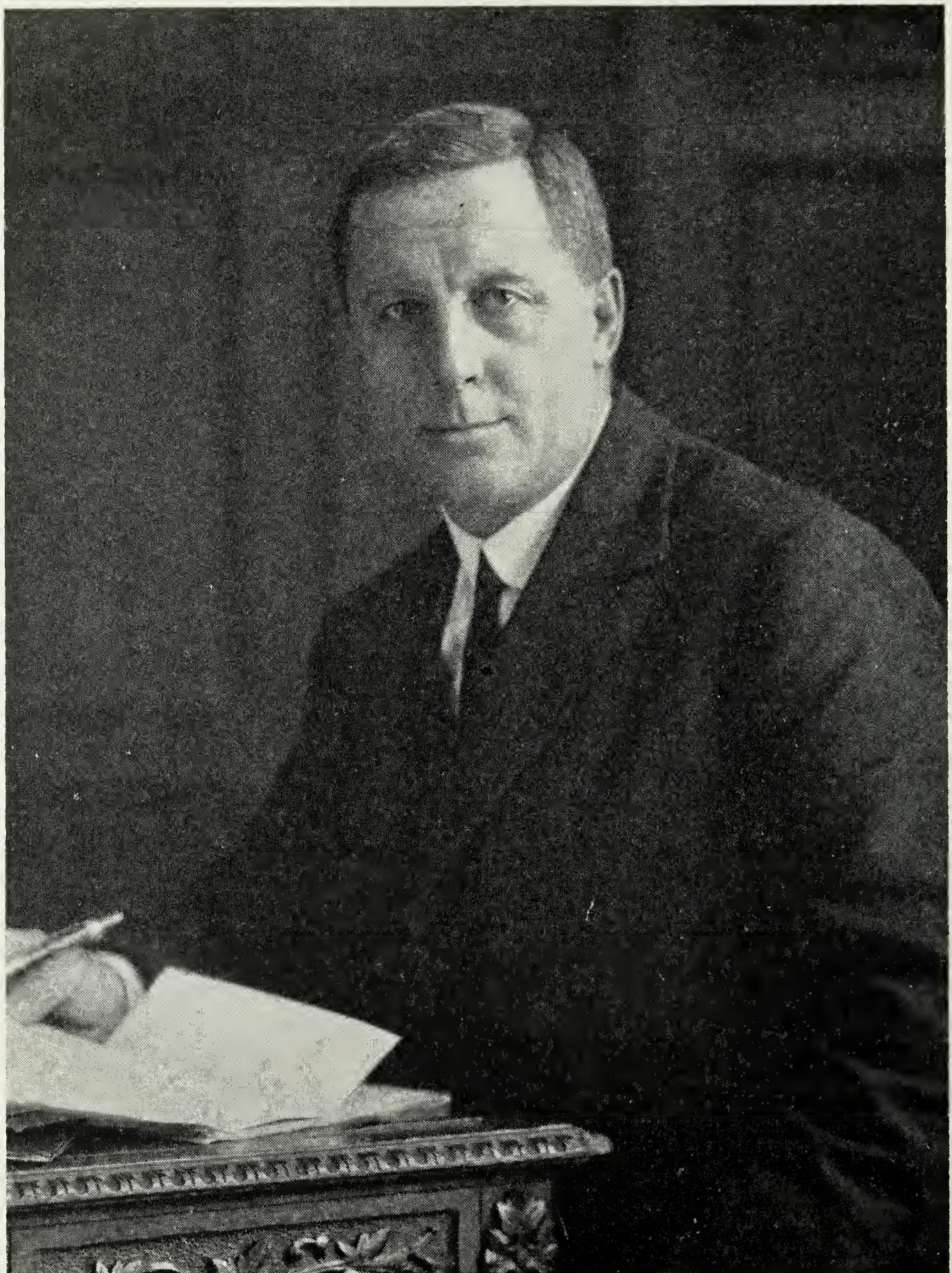
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## **THE DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL**

The Dykes Memorial Medal is the highest award that can be given to an iris. This Medal commemorates the name of William R. Dykes, who was born November 4, 1877, and who died December 1, 1925. While interested in many types of flowers as attested by his appointment as Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, his first love was the iris.

While his greatest interest lay in collecting the seed of species, growing them and recording the physical properties of the plants, nevertheless he produced many outstanding garden varieties of tall bearded irises. Earlier introductions included Aphrodite (1922) the best pink of the day; Richard II (1914), a progenitor of modern amoenas, and two great achievements introduced after his death. The first was the large yellow W. R. Dykes and the second was the large flowered white Gudrun. While the variety Gudrun never seems to have gained favor with the iris growers in the country from whence it came, its popularity has continued without diminishing in America. In 1951 over twenty years after its importation, Gudrun stands sixty-ninth in our list of one hundred comprising the Symposium.

The Dykes Medal may be awarded yearly by The Iris Society (England) to an American, an English and a French introduction. In the United States it is voted on by the accredited judges of the AIS and on the specific recommendation of twenty-five or more judges it may be



William R. Dykes. In his honor The Iris Society established the Dykes Medal, emblematic of perfection in achievement.

Right — Likeness of W. R. Dykes decorates one side of medal.



Left — Scene in Japanese Iris Garden is engraved upon medal's underside.

awarded by the Board of Directors to any variety that has received the Award of Merit not more than four (see Minutes of Directors' Meeting, this issue) full years prior to the Award year.

## WINNERS OF THE DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

1927	1939
England—Margot Holmes (Perry '27)	America—Rosy Wings (Gage 1935)
America—San Francisco (Mohr '27)	
1928	1940
France —Plui D'Or (Cayeux '28)	England—White City (Murrell '39)
1929	America—Wabash (Mary Williamson '36)
England—Joyance (Dykes '29)	
France —Vert Galant (Cay '29)	1941
1930	England—Mabel Chadburn (Chadburn '39)
England—G. P. Baker (Perry '30)	America—The Red Douglas (J. Sass '37)
France —Depute Nonblot (Cay '29)	
1931	1942
England—Gudrun (Dykes '30)	America—Great Lakes (Cousins '38
France —Jean Cayeux (Cayeux '31)	Canada)
1932	1943
France —Eclador (Cayeux '32)	America—Prairie Sunset (H. Sass '39)
America—Rameses (H. Sass '29)	
1933	1944
France —Alice Harding (Cay '33)	America—Spun Gold (Glutzbeck '40)
America—Coralie (Ayers '32)	
1934	1945
England—Golden Hind (Chadburn '34)	America—Elmohr (Loomis '42)
France —Madame Louis Aureau (Cay '34)	
1935	1946
England—Sahara (Pilkington '34)	No awards in England, France or
France —Madame Maurice Lassailly (Cayeux '35)	America.
America—Sierra Blue (Essig '32)	
1936	1947
France —Olympio (Cayeux '36)	America—Chivalry (Wills '44)
America—Mary Geddes (Stahl-Wash '31)	
1937	1948
France —Nicole Lassailly (Cay '38)	England—Mrs. J. L. Gibson (Gibson '30)
America—Missouri (Grinter '33)	America—Ola Kala (J. Sass 1943)
1938	1949
France —Antigone (Rene Cayeux '39)	England—Blue Ensign (Meyer '30)
America—Copper Lustre (Kirkland '34)	America—Helen McGregor (Graves '46)
	1950
	America—Blue Rhythm (Whiting '45)
	1951
	America—Cherie (Hall '47)

# CULTURAL REQUIREMENTS OF LOUISIANA NATIVE IRISES

CLAUDE W. DAVIS, La.

In recent years much has been written in appreciation of the beauty and garden value of the Louisiana native iris. Horticultural journals have been generous in their praise of popular varieties and they have paid fitting tribute to the men and women who have sought them in the wild or produced them as seedlings in their gardens. As a result more gardeners have been "sold" on the desirability of these plants than have been educated to the fundamentals which are essential to successful culture. Possibly we should all benefit by taking a page from nature's book of plant lore and examine each of the main groups of Louisiana natives in relation to the conditions under which they are naturally found.

Dr. John K. Small, former Curator of the New York Botanical Garden, named and described ninety-five species of Louisiana irises during his explorations of the "Twenties." It is now believed that most of these clones were natural hybrids of two or more general types, of which there are at least four. These four species, or four groups of related species, each have a distinct geographical distribution in which there is wide variation in soil conditions.

*Iris giganticaerulea* is the tall blue of the marshes, just above brackish water along the entire length of the Gulf Coast from Port Arthur, Texas to Bay St. Louis, Miss. The soil is high in fertility and organic matter and is approximately neutral in its reaction. The plants are found growing in shallow water during all or most of the year, with the beds drying out only in the summer after the plants have become dormant. Even during the summer the rhizomes are protected from the heat of the sun by water, shade or vegetation. The natural conclusion is that to grow *iris giganticaerulea* or its related hybrids one must provide a very fertile soil and either shallow pond culture or regulate the moisture supply in upland beds by incorporating liberal quantities of organic matter in the soil and heavily mulching the plants to protect the rhizomes from mid-summer sun. Very acid soils could be improved by making them nearly neutral through the addition of a small amount of lime.

*I. fulva* is the bronze, red or flame-colored iris of the alluvial lands of the Lower Mississippi Valley. It is found only in areas which have at some recent geological time, been influenced by overflows and soil deposits from the Mississippi River. It is most frequently found growing in heavy clay soil along the banks of streams or where drainage conditions are poor. The soil is high in organic matter, very fertile and

very slightly acid to neutral in its reaction. This suggests that *I. fulva* is not quite as exacting in its requirements as *I. giganticaerulea*, but that garden conditions should be about the same for maximum performance.

*Iris foliosa* is the small dwarf with pale blue to lavender flowers on zig-zag stems down in the foliage. It is found on the bluff or terrace soils of the state and on the lower edges of the terraces just before they flatten out into the alluvial land. The soil is slightly acid with a pH of 6 to 6.4. It is a compact, poorly drained and poorly aerated silt which is less fertile than the alluvial land. Organic matter is low except on the surface which has been influenced by falling leaves and other vegetation. This species is usually found in light shade in wooded areas and the beds are most frequently in shallow depressions which hold water during the rainy season, but which are dry in the summer. What conclusions may we draw from these conditions which would benefit the gardener? *Iris foliosa* is better suited to poor, acid soils, depleted of organic matter and subject to summer droughts than are the other two species. This also offers an explanation of why upland gardeners have been so universally successful with hybrids of *foliosa* with *fulva* and/or *giganticaerulea*. A few of the better known of these hybrids are Peggy Mac, Haile Selassie, Bayou Sunset, Louise Austin and Edith Dupre. Under optimum growth conditions in an upland bed *Iris foliosa* will crowd out *I. giganticaerulea* and *I. fulva* or their purple hybrids.

*Iris virginica* is related to *I. versicolor* of the Great Lakes Region and *I. Caroliniana* of the South Atlantic States. In Louisiana it is found in poorly drained areas in the pine flats of southeast, southwest and northwest Louisiana. The soil is usually poor, low in organic matter and highly acid. This species grows readily on any soil provided it is supplied with some moisture during the summer months. Unfortunately, this plant is not properly appreciated by most gardeners in Louisiana. Possibly it is because it grows so easily along all the road-side ditches in the areas where it is found, because the pale blue flowers have a pleasing appearance in the yard and they are excellent for floral arrangements. *I. virginica* does not hybridize with the other native types described above.

These lessons from Mother Nature are written very plainly for those who are willing to read them. Her wildlings from Louisiana's fertile swamps and bogs may be grown in upland gardens in most humid regions if one will follow the simple receipt of abundance of organic matter, liberal fertilization, deep mulch and water as needed during summer droughts.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Mr. Davis is past President of the Society for Louisiana Irises.*

## Exhibition Certificate Awards—1951

	Description
BENSON, CLIFFORD—Missouri 48-7	Large white, well-branched, 42 inch.
50-78	Warm white, yellow haft, well branched.
T.M. 19	Flamingo pink, 36 inches, an excellent variety, well-branched with a deep red beard.
T.M. 15	Ruffled cream with a gold edge, 36 in.
CRAIG, TOM—California S R Crd 9	Tall bearded, no description.
EVANS, EARL E.—Michigan 1189 V	Raspberry rose, halfway between El-mohr and Mulberry Rose in color.
FIELDING, ROY—California High Tor	Tall bearded, no description.
FLY, MRS. BYRON—Missouri F 46-16	Yellow self.
FOLKERS, REV. PAUL—Minnesota 51-1	Pure white, tall, good form, substance and branching.
Winter Carnival X National White	
51-2	White, green cast, good form and substance. Good Branching.
National White X White Wedgewood	
51-3	White.
GORHAM, R. B.—Utah 6560	Brown blend.
LARSEN, CARL—Utah 5-47	Deep violet.
10-47	Blue violet.
LUHRSEN, R. W.—California 1951-1	Douglasiana seedling.
1951-5	Douglasiana seedling.
LYON, D.—California 01009	Tall bearded, no description.
MUHLESTEIN, TELL—Utah 48-78	Medium yellow self.
48-89	Violet—mohr type.
49-18A	Deep maroon self.
51-12	Flecked and splashed violet, Mohr type.

	Description
OHL, JOHN—Kansas 5 Ormaco X Lancaster	Rose pink.
PALMER, MRS. DOROTHY—Missouri 50-24	Deep orange yellow, semi-flaring, 36 inches.
50-2	Velvety, black purple, well branched, 40 inches.
50-12	Pure white, definite green influence, 38 inches.
SASS BROS.—Maple Road Gardens 48-206 (Ivory Petals)	Large, greyed yellow, good substance and form.
WALL, HUGO—Kansas 50-A1 51-C1	Medium clear blue. Violet blue.
WIESNER, JOSEPH—Missouri 49-1	Hybrid onco X Seminole, white with bright gold beard.

## 1951 Annual Statement—Exhibition Committee

### RECEIPTS:

Sale of cards, tags, ribbons, booklets, etc. .... \$196.82

### EXPENSE:

#### *Exhibition supplies:*

Cards, tags, ribbons, etc. ....	194.35
Engraving—extra 1950 ....	3.05
Refund to Sacramento ....	2.55
Office supplies & postage ....	80.54
	<hr/>
	\$280.49

This statement does not include the booklets which were printed elsewhere, but is otherwise complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.—FERN T. IRVING, *Chairman*.

### ELOISE GARDENS

Choice and Distinctive Iris

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Iris, Peonies, Poppies, Daylilies

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Box 146-C

## A NEW DISPLAY GARDEN OF TALL BEARDED IRIS

MRS. HARRY BICKLE, Ont.

A notable planting of Tall Bearded Iris has been assembled during the summer of 1951 in a Botanical Garden and Arboretum being established on the grounds of an estate recently bequeathed to the University of Toronto in Toronto, Ontario.

A total of 400 varieties inclusive of 45 Canadian Introductions or named varieties has been planted. The list of eligibles for the 1951 AIS Symposium was made the basis of the main planting and the greater part of that list has been obtained as well as a number of newer American Introductions. There are 66 varieties included which were introduced in the four years 1948-51 (inclusive) of which 20 were introduced in 1950 or 1951. The planting also includes all but two of the Dykes Medal winners, all the "Hall of Fame" and all but three of the "Hundred Favorites" as rated in 1950. It has been said on good authority that this planting is already the finest assemblage of *newer* varieties to be found at any one place in Canada at the present time.

The site selected for the iris beds is an ideal one, situated in an open area surrounded by beautiful old trees and hence well protected from prevailing winds. The soil is a light rich loam, well drained. The beds are raised and were trench dug in old sod with plenty of well rotted manure placed about 10-12 inches down with the sod placed over the manure. The planting is planned at present as a display garden of single clumps.

This planting was made possible through the generous donations of planting stock by members of the Canadian Iris Society (Region 16 AIS) supplemented by similar donations from a number of United States dealers and introducers.

The selection of the Tall Bearded Iris for the initial horticultural project of the Botanical Garden was decided upon partly because the iris insured a quick show which for local reasons seemed highly desirable. Perhaps the main reason, however, was because one of the members of the staff of the Department of Botany at the University, the department responsible for the development of the Botanical Garden, happened to be an old iris personality and former grower. While he had deserted the AIS in 1930 for reasons which seemed at the time to be good and sufficient, he was most happy to return to the old interest and to the AIS fold under the special circumstances and give to the project the benefit of his former experience.

The instigator of the project was H. S. Jackson, Professor of Mycology and Head of the Department, and the planting has been made under

his personal direction. Prof. Jackson is well known in Botanical circles as an international authority on Plant Rusts and more recently for his studies on a group of wood inhabiting fungi of some importance in Forest Pathology. He has been President of the Mycological Society of America and of Section V of the Royal Society of Canada. He is at present Editor of the *Canadian Journal of Botany*.

A few of the older members of the AIS may recall him as having been a sideline dealer, operating under the garden name "Iris Fields" at West Lafayette, Indiana, from about 1923-29 during which period he was Chief in Botany at the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station.

Operating as is necessary at present with only sufficient funds for labor and supplies, Professor Jackson is forced to depend on the generosity of the iris loving public for plants. With the excellent start which has already been made it is obviously desirable that the quality of the planting be maintained for as long a period as feasible. During the summer of 1952 it would seem desirable that the remainder of the 1951 Symposium list, together with as many as possible of those which will be added to the 1952 list, should be included in this planting. Very few of these varieties are at present in Canadian gardens. Prof. Jackson would therefore appreciate the opportunity to make contact with anyone—private grower, dealer or introducer—who would be interested in assisting in this worthy project. A list of those varieties especially needed could be made available.

## *Garden Notes*

MRS. HARRY BICKLE

*Vice-President of the Garden Club of Ontario*

Glendon Hall, an estate of great beauty, has been acquired recently by the University of Toronto from the E. R. Wood family. The grounds have been turned over to the Department of Botany and the Faculty of Forestry for the development of a Botanical Garden and Arboretum. In this development, emphasis will be placed on teaching, research and experimentation. In the garage building a research laboratory for the joint use of the two departments is being installed.

For the Botanical Garden, tentative plans include a Systematic Garden where plants will be arranged by their family relationships, and a special Pharmaceutical and Herb Garden. In the woods and fields below the level on which the mansion stands, a long range plan for a naturalization programme is an ideal complement to the more formal prospect on the upper level.

The interest of horticulturists has been stimulated by the prospect of specimen collections of the more popular perennials and shrubs. The first of these, a planting of outstanding bearded iris, has been accomplished efficiently without fanfare, and the resulting display of bloom should be a great joy to the gentleman most concerned, as well as to grateful flower lovers.

Other plantings, to be undertaken promptly, include the restoring of the existing rose garden, the possibility of a specimen paeony and lily planting and perhaps a delphinium garden. The prospect is infinite and very pleasing. Those who are sufficiently interested to watch the development of these gardens will find it a rewarding experience. The great virtue of an appeal to existing Horticultural and Specialists Societies is that interest is aroused, followed immediately by the desire to help, to contribute perhaps some choice specimens that could not be purchased from the limited funds at the disposal of the Departments for this delightful work.

The wonderful lawns and hedges, the variety and charm of the trees, the terraces and water gardens, the superb handling of stone, the quiet beauty of the great ravine with the little river running through it—one of the upper reaches of the Don, so dear and so familiar to lovers of Toronto's beauty spots—all these provide an incomparable setting for the colour and the perfume of flowers, a happy home for the nesting birds and a welcome shelter for those birds that catch their breath after their incredible flights from lands and continents to the south.

The entrance to Glendon Hall is at the corner of Lawrence Avenue East and Bayview Avenue (just north of Sunnybrook Hospital). That entrance leads into a quiet garden "where the kind of loyalty and love of country that inspires actions rather than words, seems to have its opportunity to provide an hour of escape into some of the real beauty of Canada.—From *Echoes*, publication of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire.



Popular new Regional Vice-President of Region 16 (Canada) is Veepette Margaret McCann.

# SPRING REGIONAL IRIS MEETING OF REGION 17

## Texas and Oklahoma

PLACE: The Guy Rogers gardens in Wichita Falls, Texas.

TIME: The seasonal peak of bloom—approximately April 26th and 27th.

### TENTATIVE PROGRAM.

#### Saturday, April 26, 6 P.M.

“The Women’s Forum.”

1. Informal social hour.
2. Banquet.
3. Discussion of iris and iris problems by nationally accredited authorities.

#### Sunday, April 27, early morning.

1. Inspection of the gardens.
2. Box lunch on the lawn.
3. Afternoon sectional meeting.
  - A. Demonstration of iris arrangements by Nationally Accredited judges.
  - B. Discussions of the conditioning, transportation and staging of iris shows.
  - C. Judging of the specimen iris.
  - D. Judging of the iris in the garden.

#### Monday, April 28.

With all of this, there is also the probability that a bus trip may be arranged to the famous Wagenor Ranch, Santa Rosa, near Vernon, Texas. At this famous Texas ranch one will meet another iris grower, Mrs. Paul Wagenor, and see her plantings of choice iris.

President and Mrs. Guy Rogers have again generously opened their home and beautiful gardens for the Spring meeting of Region 17. These gardens are considered the most outstanding of America’s iris gardens. Here you may see growing established clumps of the finest hybrids long before they have been introduced to commerce. There are guest iris galore, hundreds of the “Favorite Hundred” iris and scores of other fine iris. You will miss a rare treat if you don’t see them.

You will also enjoy meeting many of the Directors of the American Iris Society, nationally known hybridists and growers of fine iris. Here is your chance to meet your iris neighbors from Texas and Oklahoma.

Do make your plans to attend this meeting.—WILLIE I. BIRGE, RVP.

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### FLEUR DE LIS GARDENS

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### TOP O' THE RIDGE

Choice Midwestern Grown  
Peonies—IRIS—Hemerocallis  
CATALOG ON REQUEST

ALLEN HARPER

Grandview, Mo.



With the Mohrs, I think the most important thing is to mix the other oncos with the Mohrs, rather than inbreed the Mohrs themselves. Capitola is an exception to this, for though part Mohr, this is outweighed by its other blood, so it gives fine things used either on Mohrs or on many of the Tall Bearded. Use IbMac and Joppa Parrot, as well as Capitola, and you'll get far better results than if you merely crossed the Mohrs with each other. Capitola and IbMac, used with warm plies, have given me wonderful results—TOM CRAIG, California.

A certain grocer, new to the iris game, covered his rhizomes at least 4" deep with cow manure. I told him I feared they would burn or rot, but he was not much impressed, though he said he would remove some of it. I went back a few weeks later, and he had such an increase of fans on some of them that I could hardly recognize the place, and for a while, he did not lose a one. But—later they became infected, probably from rot organisms in the manure; the leaves turned yellow and spotted and only a quick removal of the manure, and a quick, thorough spraying, saved the plants at all. But he did get wonderful increase!—MRS. MELVA MOON, California.

Gophers? Cyanogas cartridges solve *that* problem easily, IF you notice them in time, but they work fast, and if you don't watch, will do a lot of damage before you know what's up. As soon as you notice the first signs, open the burrow, light a cartridge and insert it, then close the hole, and watch for smoke coming from any other openings and close them too. That does it, till more move in.—CHET TOMPKINS, Iowa.

I think pocket gophers are even worse than plain gophers, as they stop their holes up behind them and all you can find is the pile of fine, loose dirt

on the surface. You can dig and dig without finding the nest, but if you are lucky you may be able to find the hole with its plug of new soil which is a little looser than the earth around it and a little darker looking. Dig carefully and follow it up, once found, till you are near the nest, then drive the family flivver as near as you can get and with an old piece of hose (or even an old bicycle innertube) pipe gas from the exhaust into it, or if you can't get at it with the car, a gas-engine powered garden tractor or lawn mower will do the trick. There's not much use trying to drown them out as they pack dirt into the hole so tight it dams the water off and you have your work for nothing.

—WILMA VALLETTE, Idaho.

I never cut tops back in fall on my iris as the old foliage seems to help protect them in winter. They do look neater when cut back, but most of those who have done it say that their winter losses are greater, maybe because water ran into the cut-off ends causing rot; maybe because the old tops act somewhat as a mulch to protect them from freezing and thawing and from stray spores of botrytis, perhaps, if you live in a region where that is bad.—MRS. L. A. JOHNSON, Iowa.

I control gophers with strychnined alfalfa leaves or raw carrots, pushed back into their holes and then cover the exits. The runs are located by the fresh mounds of soil pushed up in the patch—usually right beneath your choicest iris!—Where the ground has cracked deeply around my iris I tried filling the cracks with sand left over from plastering the house and it seemed to work fine. There wasn't enough sand for the whole field so I just used it around the best ones.

—MRS. GLEN SUITER, Idaho.

There are three ways of F2 breeding—self the flower with its own pollen, sib-cross it to sister seedlings or cross

it to other seedlings with the desired blood in them; either of the two last might possibly result in a little more vigor in the offspring unless your plant carried genes for high vigor.—The cleanest blue I've had was from Hoogiana x Souv. de Mme. Guadichau—a real surprise as both seedlings from the cross were simply huge. I still feel that Hoogiana is of value in breeding for true blues.—TELL MUHLESTEIN, Utah.

I wonder how it would work out to combine Tell's idea for getting true blues (from Hoogiana) and the Sass's idea of getting them (from crossing the best of the existing blues to the shell pinks), by crossing Hoogiana to the said pinks? Sounds interesting, at least!

As to cutting off iris tops, I tried it two years. They *do* look nice and neat and are easier to clean out in spring, but I never had so much winter loss before, mostly from botrytis rot. Apparently the old tops had kept the spores away by which it spreads. I tried everything I heard of for it, digging and burning all infected parts and disinfecting the soil and cut parts with corrosive sublimate, with formaldehyde, and with Semesan in various parts of the field. None of it seemed to do any good; perhaps if I had been able to dig every plant and dunk it, results might have been better, but with around 2,000 clumps, some of them huge ones, that is too much work for one person to get done. Last winter for the first time I tried burning-over the iris patch with a weed burner, not for the botrytis, but simply to get rid of the old tops a little easier than raking them out and hauling them away to be burned. Later, I thought that perhaps these old tops had been why I had so little loss from botrytis in my older clumps that had had such a heavy infestation the past two years; out of at least 1,800 varieties I lost not over a dozen from this—the lightest loss yet. But in the 450 new ones set out last year I lost over 80 despite their having been planted in new soil and soaked for one half hour before planting in Semesan. By the protection-

of-old-tops theory, the reason for this would have been that their scanty tops on new fans was insufficient to keep the spores off. But after I got started digging in them, after blooming was over, I changed my mind. In dozens of the old clumps I found symptoms of arrested botrytis—corky rhizomes, dead roots and reddish skins somewhat similar to symptoms of scorch and thickened “elephant skin.” But in none of them did I find that the disease had progressed to its fatal ending as the burning had killed the spores, and the velvety gray mold by which the spores spread to other plants, had never formed on the fans nor had the gravelly black resting-bodies by which it survives till next winter formed beneath the rhizomes. Only in the smaller and younger plants and some of the seedlings, which I had not bothered to burn because of the scantiness of their tops had the mold shown up or the resting-bodies formed. And believe me—next year I'm going to burn over everything, small or not; if burning will prevent loss from botrytis, as in my opinion that is the deadliest rot of all, and once you get it, it is almost impossible to get rid of it!

—MRS. C. W. VALLETTE, Idaho.

I got a fair seedpod last spring by little Elsa on one of the Muhlestein pink seedlings from pollen two months old. I kept it in a piece of wax paper folded over on both sides, then folded the other way to keep the pollen from falling out in any direction, and put it in the ice box. This fall I got pods by that same pollen, now over six months old, on Autumn Frost and Eleanor Roosevelt. Who says iris pollen is short lived? Dry pollen, however, lost its vitality in 3-4 weeks.—MRS. JOHN DANIEL FREEMAN, Arizona.

From 1936-40 I went all-out for fall-blooming iris, but they didn't bloom. I went to Sass Bros., and this is what they told me about getting them to bloom in fall: Let them rest during the last blooming in the spring into early August. Then by the middle of August start watering deeply and use a good com-

plete fertilizer; when the dry summer heat broke and the cool of fall came like that of spring, the iris would bloom. I did this and soon after beginning to water budstalks formed deep in the fans and they bloomed until Jack Frost got them. As usual, Jake laughed and told me I'd have to learn to fool them into thinking it was spring again after the summer heat.

Have any of you would-be hybridizers tried using colchicine? Be careful! It can cause blindness, and I am told it may cause cancer. So use a gas mask, gloves, and leather apron when working with it—better be safe than sorry!

—MRS. EDITHA HUDSON, Nebraska.

Dr. Randolph told me that he had never heard of anyone getting cancer from using colchicine. As I'm told it only disrupts the chromosomes I doubt if I try any, apart from the possible danger attending its use.—MRS. FRANCES HORTON, Indiana.

By taking a flashlight after dark and holding it back of seedpods one can see if there are seeds in it long before they are ripe—a help when working with hybrids that grow pods with nothing in them.—I use India ink on white-painted tree labels for permanency in labeling my iris.—I have twice saved rhizomes that were in bad shape. One had the whole growing end rotted and no roots. I took it in, cleaned off all the rot, washed it good and dried it in the sun. Then I got a can, punched plenty of holes in the bottom and filled it with clean sand, putting the rhizome partly in the sand, but leaving the part where the rot was exposed to the air. I kept the sand wet and soon there was a nice sprout.—MRS. H. A. SIMONSON, Washington.

I hope everyone will be prepared for spring and have your crosses all planned and capsules ready to save the pollen of early bloomers till the later ones are ready. Don't just go out and cross things that bloom at the same time. Plan them for the purpose of getting some particular thing, color, shape, size or some other definite objective. Plan

for a series of generations to achieve it—don't just smear pollen and expect to get a perfect iris the next season. Select your parents with care, noting that each one is expected to contribute to the result. If you use two large parents you will surely get large seedlings and the same applies to tucked falls or any other characteristic. Try to balance your parents, selecting one strong where the other is weak, if it is necessary to use one with bad characteristics to get the particular thing you want.

—WALTER WELCH, Indiana.

Balkana is dominant for color in  $F_1$  and also gives wide petals and nice shape to its children. Yellow Frills is the most neutral parent of all the dwarfs I have tried with the talls; it gives good substance, form, and several colors in segregation. Some Dwarfs in  $F_1$  give mostly Dwarf characteristics; Burchfield 414 is one that ought to be a fine parent for yellow intermediates when crossed with tall.—MRS. WILMA GREENLEE, Illinois.

I have found that Elmohr crossed with anything either way will give children like the other parent; it is certainly far from dominant in any characteristic! I am told that Shark-skin has a double dose of blue-inhibitor; if true, it might be a good one to use with pale colored hybrids, to try for, say a white Mohr.—MRS. ELMER HARDY, Idaho.

Quoting from our Regional Bulletin (# 18) an article by Dr. David Kinish says: "The best remedy against iris borers is to burn off the old foliage early in the spring just before the frost leaves the ground, though it can be done successfully later with no harm to the plants, until the foliage begins to grow. Be careful not to burn too late or the forming buds will be injured. Another advantage to burning-over is that disease spores are eliminated too. I have done this for two years in succession in my seedling bed and the plants there are the cleanest and healthiest I have ever had."—MRS. PERYL DAFFORN, Kansas.

The Neosho Iris Club near here has some very fine containers for iris exhibited at their show which others might like to copy. They are made from uniform lengths of plumbers pipe, painted green, with bottom soldered in and heavy enough to stand without tipping even when tall stalks are in them. They are just the right length and size to hold stalks upright without crowding.—MRS. PEARL GATES, Missouri.

I only had a few seeds to plant last fall so I filed them so the moisture would work on them sooner, as it was late before I got them planted. They came up fine.—MRS. JACOB ANSTADT, North Dakota.

Try coating labels with colorless fingernail polish; it protects them so the white paint on the wooden labels is less apt to scale off in a year or so, and the writing beneath them remains legible indefinitely.—MRS. RALPH NELSON, Idaho.

This year I tried to get rid of borers by burning-over. I did it early in March, but the iris must have been farther along than I realized, or else I burned too slowly and hurt the rhizomes. Anyhow, I got slightly acquainted with my first bit of rot. Shasta was hurt worst; it curled up its fans and got all slimy, but I cut them all off and it seems OK now. Anyhow, from now on I'll stick to DDT, Methoxychlor or Gray's Borer Eradicator to knock the borers.—MRS. ZEH DENNIS, N.J.

I'd like to hear about planting seed in pots. My idea is this: Put them in damp sand and stick in the freezing compartment of the refrigerator for about six weeks (or about 10 days in a deep freeze) to break the dormancy and aid generation of the hard-shelled seeds. But don't blame me if your families object. Mine are getting pretty tough-skinned about finding house plants in the bath tub, and seeds of all kinds in the tea cups! Then keep them moist after you take them out and don't let them dry out, or a lot won't come up after all your work.—MRS. IRENE McCULLOCH, Minnesota.

It's easy to see why pink-breeders stick so close to inbreeding pink lines for when you outbreed you get mostly junk with rarely a halfway good one. But cross these back to your pink lines and they help by adding the characteristics of the cultured plant, and the outbred pink resulting from these  $F_2$  crosses does not ruin the color of crosses made to other pinks. Though poorly expressed, this sums up a lot of experience; specifically Flora Zenor, Overture, Spindthrift, Isabellina, and Hall pinks bred together gave me a lot of nice pinks, but no real progress. Flora on Mount Washington, a Chosen seedling, and many others gave mostly junk, but a few vigorous creamy pinks also, with marked plant difference from my line of pure pinks, being especially tall, vigorous, and mostly larger with decently held standards—one of the worst faults of all pinks from my other crosses. Pure Eupogons that have been extremely useful with oncos and onco-breds are Orloff, Purissima, Snoqualmie, Berkeley Gold, Mariposa Mia, Fairy Foam, Inspiration, Gay Senorita, Cherie, Snow Flurry, Sultan's Robe, Moon Goddess, Acropolis, Golden Eagle and Clara Noyes. Germination is more difficult and slower with the Mohrs, and the seedlings are relatively harder to establish, for they are stubborn about forming enough root system to sustain life. Don't be discouraged if they are slow—that is an onco trait. But don't feel that they won't be any good if they germinate good and start life with a bang, as sometimes an occasional cross has more vigor than the average, and the fact that your seed came up the first year and blooms the second doesn't always mean that the plant is nothing but straight tall bearded, as is often said. I have found though, that except for Capitola which must be used as pollen parent, that all the Mohrs are far more apt to give onco characteristics when used as pod parent only. Reciprocal crosses between Eupogons usually give approximately the same results, each with the other, as the dif-

ference genetically is very small, if any at all. But when Eupogons are bred to oncos or to onco-hybrids, it is almost always the pod parent whose characteristics are most noticeable in the offspring with the exception of Capitola, IbMac and Joppa Parrot. This trait, I imagine, is true in any cross between different classes of iris providing, of course, that these classes are near enough alike genetically for a cross of any kind to be possible.—TOM CRAIG, California.

My first year germination is around 95%, as a rule. I plant in October or November and make sure the soil is moist. It goes into the winter moist and I keep it this way in the spring. I plant very thick, about  $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep, as I believe this helps the seedlings to come through better; They have to be transplanted anyway while very small. Last year I used Vermiculite to lighten the soil covering the seed, but as this was a very wet spring I don't know if it helped or not. I've found that heavy manure around iris is a good thing to

stay away from, as it is apt to cause mustard-seed rot. Plenty of thoroughly rotted manure and compost is fine; an old straw-stack bottom, rotted into almost pure compost, does wonders for a clay soil here in Wichita.

If you don't have a coldframe, the next best is to take two panes of glass and set up in an inverted V-shape over the row. I do it myself, stringing out several over the whole seedling row leaving the ends open. A wire bent over the tops and extended down about 2" over the outside will hold the glass up even in a hard wind. Use a hook at each end to hold the frames together. I buy discarded photo-templates, wash the photo off in warm water and have a 12 x 28" piece of glass, but most any size will do.—JOHN OHL, Kansas.

I always nick the seedcoats the same as with morning glories so the seeds will come up quicker. Since I did this my germination is at least 50% greater the first year than it was before.—JOHN DAVIES, Pennsylvania.

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## TWIN CITY IRIS GROUP ORGANIZES

On October 18, 1951, a group of iris enthusiasts met in Minneapolis, and with a charter membership of twenty-five persons, formed the Twin City Iris Society. Mr. W. G. Sindt of St. Paul was chosen as the Society's first President.

The purpose of the Society will be to encourage the culture and popularity of the iris in the Twin City area, through a series of open meetings in which all the phases of iris culture will be discussed. An Annual Iris Show, comparable to any in the United States, will be sponsored by the Society. Municipal iris plantings for both Minneapolis and St. Paul are planned.

The Society has established a goal of at least 100 members for the next year and like Bert Parks' jackpot, hopes to grow and grow and grow. The Society will be affiliated with the American Iris Society.—NATHAN BURNS, *Publicity Chairman*, 1706 Queen Avenue, North, Minneapolis 11, Minnesota.



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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THE BULLETIN welcomes questions from its readers. The answers are from a panel of experts selected from The Staff, Committee Chairmen, the Board of Directors, Officers of the Society and other sources. Address your questions to The Editor, American Iris Society, Franklin Rd., Brentwood, Tenn.

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## CULTURE OF BEARDED IRISES

**Q. How deep should a bearded iris rhizome be planted?**

**A.** Plant your rhizome just deep enough so that when the rain washes away the loose soil, the top of the rhizome will be exposed. A rule of thumb when planting is to cover to a depth of a half inch.

**Q. What is the most important consideration in planting iris?**

**A.** Good drainage is of prime importance. Bearded irises cannot stand "wet feet" and must have circulation and sunlight. In planting in open fields, hill up the rows so that when the soil settles the plants will not be in a depression. If the plants are to be set out in beds, it is a good idea to raise the beds from two to four inches above the level of the surrounding ground. If this is impossible, try setting the clumps on small circular, individual mounds. Further, when possible, allow the soil to settle before planting. A good planting method is to cut two slanting holes with a spade, diagonally away from the spot upon which the rhizome is to be placed. Set the rhizome upon this inverted "V," spread the feeding roots evenly to each side and fill in the soil over the feeding roots. Then cover the rhizome to a depth of half an inch and firm with the foot to the desired level.

**Q. How often should an iris be cultivated?**

**A.** Just often enough to keep the weeds down. Remember that iris are heavy feeders and are shallow rooted. Cultivation has the effect of making the roots go down for their food and water thus utilizing richness worked into the soil before planting.

**Q. Should bearded irises be covered in winter?**

**A.** Yes, if you live in the north, no if you live in the south. Use a porous covering such as salt hay, excelsior or the like.

## FERTILIZER FOR BEARDED IRISES

**Q. Do the Bearded Iris like acid, neutral or alkaline soil?**

**A.** The Bearded Iris prefers neutral to slightly alkaline soil. Some varieties will thrive in acid soil. some in very alkaline, but the majority prefer neither extreme.

**Q. What type of soil is best for the Bearded Iris?**

**A.** Irises will thrive in almost any kind of soil. They grow well in sandy soil where they are apt to be free from fungus diseases, but plant food leaches away relatively fast. In heavy clay, they are subject to more diseases chiefly due to the difficulty of providing adequate drainage. The ideal soil is loose, garden loam containing a fair amount of humus.

**Q. Can commercial fertilizer be used, and, if so what kind?**

**A.** Yes, but the formula for the fertilizer depends upon your soil. As a general rule, avoid quick acting fertilizers. Though irises are heavy feeders they should remain several years in one place. Therefore use a slow acting fertilizer, avoiding too much nitrogen. Usually, the fertilizer that is recommended for potatoes in your locality will be adequate for iris.

**Q. Is it wise to use ordinary barnyard manure for fertilizing bearded irises?**

**A.** Yes, if precaution is taken to keep the manure from touching the rhizome itself, and second, if sufficient time is allowed after the manure is dug into the soil for the greater portion of the free nitrogen to escape and for the sun to kill the harmful bacteria and fungi that are apt to be present in the manure.

**Q. Should fertilizers, both inorganic and organic, be added to the soil before or after the iris rhizomes are planted?**

**A.** It is best to prepare the soil by cultivating well and add the fertilizer before the irises are planted. Personally, I prefer to plow under a heavy application of barnyard manure or chicken litter in the late fall or early spring. Repeated cultivation will incorporate the fertilizer evenly throughout the soil. The iris may then be planted after the blooming season is over. This will supply both richness and humus at the same time. If your soil is short of phosphates and potash, add a special fertilizer such as 0-12-12 or 0-9-6 at the rate of 1 pound to 100 sq. ft.

**Q. Is it wise to use fertilizer around established clumps of bearded irises?**

**A.** Irises are heavy feeders. After a clump has been in one place for several years, the soil is apt to be depleted. It is recommended that superphosphate and gypsum be sprinkled lightly around the clumps and thoroughly worked into the soil. If green moss appears around the shaded side of the plant it indicates that the soil is acid. Correct this by working in a liberal dusting of wood ashes or ground limestone.

**Q. Are the so-called "trace elements" important in iris culture?**

**A.** Very little is known about this subject. However it is known that

boron in the soil is beneficial in keeping down certain diseases such as leaf spot. To supply boron where the deficiency is indicated by a yellowing of the foliage of irises and certain legumes, add ordinary powdered borax at the rate of 15 lbs. to the acre. Borax is soluble in water and will leach away in time. The borax application should be made yearly and it will not only benefit your iris but also most perennial flowers, vegetables and shrubs.

## DISEASES OF BEARDED IRISES

**Q.** *How can I identify the disease known as soft rot, and what is the best method of treatment.*

**A.** Soft rot is easily identified. The rhizome becomes mushy and the diseased tissue has a very characteristic and disagreeable odor. As the condition progresses, the main fan will discolor and soon will fall. The bacteria causing soft rot (*bacillus carotovorous*) are spread over the surface of the soil by the rain and may infect adjacent clumps. Soft rot usually follows winter damage. All infected rhizomes should be removed and burned. Partially infected rhizomes should be cut off above the affected area. Cut back the foliage so as to admit sunlight to the whole clump. Water the clump and surrounding soil with a ruby red solution of potassium permanganate. After this dries, dust several rhizomes with a mixture of one part copper carbonate, nine parts powdered chalk.

**Q.** *What is the treatment for "Mustard Seed Rot"?*

**A.** Mustard Seed Rot is caused by a fungus which attacks the base of the leaves where they join the rhizomes. It usually occurs during hot, humid weather. Trim the leaves to admit sunlight, pull off any affected leaves entirely and apply Semesan, in liquid solution. Later dust with copper carbonate mixture.

**Q.** *How may borers be controlled?*

**A.** The Iris Borer may be controlled without too much difficulty. As soon as growth begins in the spring spray with a solution of DDT. The spraying should be repeated weekly until blooming for complete control. Solution is mixed as follows: water 3 gal., 6 level tablespoons 50% DDT, wettable, 1 tble. Dupont Spreader Sticker, 3 tbs. Fermate (made into a paste). The Fermate is for the control of leaf blight.

**Q.** *What is the best method to control leaf spot.*

**A.** There are two kinds of leaf blight or leaf spot. For ordinary leaf spot, spraying with a solution containing Fermate, Semesan and Copper Carbonate is sometimes effective. Be sure to use a spreader-sticker and as good a one as any is a tablespoon full of detergent and a tablespoon of flour to the gallon of spray. Mix the detergent and flour into a paste and then dissolve into the spray.

# Our Members Write . . .

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am deeply interested in Mr. Kelley's report of his one-man committee. I also appreciate your very excellent suggestions. The report confirmed what I had begun to suspect—that we were acquiring a membership of iris collectors and that we were failing to give new members an understanding of what membership in the Society really means.

It was difficult to get that understanding twenty years ago when most of our neighbors grew only Florentine, Honorabilis or Madame Chereau. By joining the Society we learned about such iris as Morning Splendor, Pink Satin, Lent A. Williamson, and all the thrilling story of Mr. Bliss' Dominion with its wonderful progeny. We are proud that our three dollars gave support and encouragement to such pioneers as Miss Sturtevant, Mr. Williamson and the Sass brothers.

The new member today knows little of this background. He is no doubt in the race to get more and more of the exquisite varieties which are here only because the Iris Society supported the efforts of those who were producing them. This work is far from done. We have only begun with the pinks; there is no scarlet, no pure black. There is still room for improvement on many points such as stalks, hafts and substance. If everyone dropped his membership to buy a new iris where would progress be?

The membership bill comes not every week, not every month but once a year—almost a penny a day! Any week that an iris lover cannot deny himself a dime for such a cause he is pretty poor!

As I see it, receiving the Bulletin and swelling the membership of a certain region are mere incidents in the matter of joining the society. If one really loves iris as iris fans do, if one appreciates the pleasure that comes from

promoting its development and the fellowship of association with other iris lovers, membership—not only regular but sustaining membership—becomes a privilege. For years I have said, "It's the best money I spend."—MRS. M. A. TINLEY, 520 3rd St., Council Bluffs, Ia.

Mr. H. O. Kelley's conclusions in the July, 1951 Bulletin would help some and would be of help if the welcome would come from the region officers instead of, or in addition to, the National office. That would bring the Society nearer home. A list of gardens open at blooming time would turn out to be nearly a membership list out here in Nebraska and Kansas. Nearly every member will visit at any time whether it is blooming time or not.

Advertise the possibility of members giving memberships as gifts—Christmas gifts, birthday gifts, gifts given on any occasion. Trying, perhaps, to give to those who will continue membership on their own.—W. M. KEELING, 2221 Towle St., Falls City, Nebraska.

It occurs to me that most of the large cities have some kind of a flower garden and when these are in full bloom the public is invited to see them.

Both Berkeley and Oakland, California have Rose Gardens, also Chrysanthemums, and there are signs on many of the prominent streets pointing the way to the gardens.

The Park Departments of both of these cities, and especially Oakland, give these a lot of publicity and as a result a great many people visit them each year.

I have sold and donated many iris to Oakland and San Francisco and many of the visitors to these gardens have become iris enthusiasts.

Another thing, I have always felt

that we need a few trial gardens where the newer varieties could be planted and judged under exactly the same conditions and would help the judges very materially. These *trial gardens* should be located in different sections of the country and would serve as a good test for new varieties under different climatic conditions.

I am sure we all agree that there are far too many new varieties being offered each year.—CARL SALBACH, 657 Woodmont Ave., Berkeley, Calif.

I have nothing new to suggest but feel that each judge should make an effort to secure at least one new member each year. I would be willing to give a new member \$3.50 value in iris, but heaven forbid that the RVP be given the responsibility of furnishing iris to all and sundry members to reimburse them for the iris they give in securing new members as I did while RVP.

Incidentally, I wish to protest the practice of using other than AIS judges in judging iris shows except in the flower arrangement division.—CARL TAYLOR, 1519 Tippecanoe, San Bernardino, Calif.

I H I—means more iris and day-lilies for Indianapolis for on July 20, 1951, a group of ten enthusiasts met at the home of Mrs. Eugenia Snyder for the purpose of forming the Indianapolis Hemerocallis and Iris Society. Mrs. Viola Richards of Greencastle, Indiana assisted in the formation of the new society and Mrs. Snyder was elected the first president. Miss Margaret Griffith became Vice-President, Mrs. Gladys Crossen, Secretary and Mr. Paul Dunbar, Treasurer.

Starting with only ten members the group now boasts more than fifty enthusiasts dedicated to bringing knowledge of these beautiful flowers to garden lovers of the Hoosier state.

The members enjoyed a fall meeting and a supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dunbar and a mid-winter

meeting is planned for January, 1952. AIS members in the vicinity of Indianapolis interested in joining this group should contact Mrs. Paul Dunbar, 928 N. Rochester Ave.

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My October Bulletin just came this morning. I'm one of those "new members," and tho much of the material is over my head, there's not much else gets done around here till I've read every word of it. The things I don't understand, I mean to learn! I've grown iris for years but have never had the opportunity to visit other gardens or know people who knew iris until now.

I believe I had the iris H. F. Black of N.Y. describes in her letter (Our Members Write, October), and I thought it was Zua, tho mine never got over about 15-20 inches high. I tried for years to get seed or pollen from it, but read somewhere recently that Zua produces neither, however, when I am able to get some more plants established I mean to keep trying. How I'd love to get those crinkles and lacerations onto other sizes and colors of iris!

In answer to Mrs. Black's question as to where she can get this iris, I'd be willing to send her a plant if I can get back to my old home place to get them. (I have two plants here, but not established yet.) The only catalog I have that mentions Zua is Lloyd Austin's, Placerville, California. He has a note under his "Intermediates," saying Zua will be available soon. My "Zua" came from A. B. Katkamier, Macedon, N.Y. about 16 or 18 years ago.—MRS. MATTIE TAYLOR, Wyoming.

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Another idea that might be worth passing along is in regard to using manure on iris. As has been printed before, I have been doing it for enough years to begin to have ideas which work for me and could work for others. Anyway, I have found there is very little danger or damage if the manure is put on the ground very late in the fall. Early winter is even better. That may

destroy some beneficial bacteria but certainly it helps on the bad babies. By spring it has been broken down and will cultivate into the soil so that by the second cultivation you would never know it was there.

I am having a time with leaf spot this year, and am afraid I am going to lose some this winter. I didn't use any fertilizer last year at all, and have the trouble on new plants that are on newly broken ground as bad as any. The only ones in the garden free from it are last year's seedlings, on new ground and fertilized with poultry manure and sawdust as soon as I could see the rows. It has been a cold season, wet in June but very dry the last two months, with a few hot days. I have been going over all of the best ones and taking out all dead and spotted leaves and the ones I cleaned a month ago are still pretty clean, but it is a slow job. It all seemed to start in two short rows I didn't get cleaned the first thing last spring and had a man help me finish cleaning that wasn't too careful to get every dead leaf. You can bet if I have to have help another time I'll stand over him with a sawed off shotgun loaded with buckshot!—HAROLD ODLE, Rollins, Montana.

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I would like to know the correct pronunciation of the term *amoena* when applied to iris of near white standards and blue or purple falls. There has been much discussion of this among garden friends and we seem to be at odds.—ARTHUR M. COLE, Kansas.

*Answer:* a - mee' - nah.

---

As a new member, I have received and partly digested my first Quarterly. I find the flavor to be good, and the food (for thought) value high. No apology is intended for the fact that I am an amateur; where do the professionals come from?

It is an interesting coincidence that the foreword of my first issue should contain the answers to some of the very questions I had been wondering about, as, for instance, the procedure and cost

involved in establishing identities for new varieties.

In view of the fact that my first crop of about 450 seedlings should bloom next spring for the first time, the several references to the questionable ancestry of *Shah Jehan* remind me of a larger question . . . the authenticity of *any* iris pedigree. A few years ago, I read a statement by an "authority" that little attention need be paid to the possibility of natural pollination, since the parts of a bearded iris flower are arranged in a manner such that pollination by insects is practically impossible.

So after having fought mosquitoes, heat and humidity thru a bunch of carefully recorded crosses, imagine my chagrin when I found seed pods forming where no seed pods were supposed to be . . . bees were the answer. This experience at once made all of my records to date worthless, for how was I to know that the bees hadn't beaten me to it with pollen of their own selection? Thereupon I raised the seedlings as just one big, happy family, regardless of color, race or creed. This year, nearly every one of 34 clumps of one-year-old *Eros* produced from one to three seed pods, all by natural pollination as far as I know. No human known to me aided in any way.

All serious hybridizers want accurate knowledge concerning the ancestry of their seedlings, at least as regards their immediate parents. While the quest for accuracy could be carried to fantastic extremes, such as posting a guard to guard the guard, to guard against tampering with tags, once placed, still I wonder what specific practical steps are taken to guarantee the timely arrival of the intended pollen on the proper stigmas.

Assuming that no mix-up occurred at the nursery or later, so that the parent plants are actually true to name, and assuming that after the seed is harvested, it does not become mislabelled nor mixed with seed of another cross nor otherwise confused with something which it is not, it is apparent that the

pure mechanics of pollination is subject to several possible causes of error.

If the flowers being used in a cross are not isolated by means of cellophane bags or some other device serving the same purpose, what assurance have we that a single grain of pollen has not been deposited on the stigma by wind, gravity or insect just prior to our arrival? Assuming that such depositing has not occurred, what about contamination in the brush, on the knife or even on a stamen used in transferring pollen? A free-flying insect could deposit a grain of foreign pollen on another stamen as easily as elsewhere. If such a stamen were wiped over a stigma, who could say which kind of pollen would sire the seeds?

Even if cellophane bags are used, it seems to me that they should be attached, carefully and securely, prior to the opening of the flower, and that, as an additional safeguard, it might be well to enclose within each bag enough of some lethal agent to kill any small insects which might be present.

Unless adequate precautions are taken along the lines above indicated, the ancestry of any new variety is open to question. Time-consuming though good technique surely is, it is less so than attempting to accurately establish pedigrees thru genetic research.—W. H. COMSTOCK, 2119 Waldron, SW, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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I am mulching my new babies with lawn clippings. I don't suppose they will smother the iris along with the weeds.

You speak of the trouble of keeping the bearded iris free of weeds. That sure is a job. Maybe you will be interested in a series of experiments I am making—apparently with success so far.

The weed poison, 24D, is said to kill broad leaved weeds but to be harmless to grass and corn, and some other plants. It is also said to penetrate the leaves and to pass down through the leaves and stems to the roots which it kills. Very nice, but it struck me as

very queer. Why should it care anything about the shape of the leaves? Might not the truth be something more basic—cell structure perhaps. You see, several centuries ago when I was younger, I taught botany and other sciences in high school. The immune plants seem to be endogens, while the susceptible plants are exogens. True, the endogens are largely narrow leaved plants while the exogens are generally broad leaved. Perhaps this is only accidental. The cell structure of the two classes is very different. Could this fact lie at the root of the problem?

Last summer I got a 50 lb. sack of Lawn Groom, a compound of 24D, to try on my weedy lawn. I gave a measured area of the lawn what seemed to me a pretty liberal dose. It was *fairly* successful. At the time I had a bed of short yearling iris seedlings, of no special interest to me because their daddies were unknown. You know how the same is true sometimes with human children. The weeds in this bed were a disgrace to Mr. Bailey. I slathered the remainder of my Lawn Groom all over this bed of weeds and iris seedlings. The weeds did not wait the anticipated two to four weeks. They folded pronto in about two to four days. The iris never said, "Ouch!" either then or later. So far, so good.

This spring in the middle of the growing season, I dusted heavily with WeeDust, also a 24D compound, a mass of pigweed and Lambs Quarter on my compost pile, and I did the same to a bunch of two year old iris clumps. I don't believe the weeds lasted two days. The iris are perfectly O.K. today.

This fall I had to move several hundred iris to new beds which I fertilized very heavily before replanting. Result—a mass of weeds that almost hid the iris from sight. I selected one of the worst 3' x 6' beds and dusted half of it with WeeDust, paying special attention to four Fortune iris half buried as they were in the weeds. Again the weeds died, the iris were O.K. So I dosed the other half of the same bed the same

way. Same result except for the apparent immunity of one lone broad leaved weed, name unknown to me, but apparently an Exogen. I will touch up again with the WeeDust tomorrow.

I wish some other folks would try this experiment just as a double check on me. I may be overlooking some pertinent factor. I plan to include some other Endogens next year such as lilies, hyacinths and maybe tulips.—ARTHUR BAILEY, Monroe, Washington.

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The following are my suggestions to The American Iris Society for stimulating interest in iris and in the Society:

1. To assist in organizing local groups or sub-groups of other organizations, primarily for the purpose of stimulating interest in iris.
2. To co-operate with various organizations where there is an interest in iris.
3. To make available to organized groups both lectures and color slides on iris.
4. To grow a good collection of iris in one's own garden and permit visitors to see them.
5. To distribute seeds and rhizomes to others.
6. To contribute articles on iris for publication to periodicals and other publications.
7. To assist in stimulating interest in Test Gardens and demonstration plantings. To contribute to Test Gardens and also visit them.
8. To get acquainted with available research on iris and help distribute this information to others.
9. To assist in initiating local iris shows, tours, and garden visits.
10. To visit with other garden growers, thereby increasing one's knowledge, also stimulating more interest in others, particularly in regard to iris.
11. To make available to circulation libraries a copy of the good color slides on iris.
12. The American Iris Society might send out to groups interested a sample charter for organizing a local or State

Iris Society. Also the Society could publish a list of speakers who would be available to address Iris Society Groups.

We in Louisiana feel that we have done a good bit to stimulate interest in our native Louisiana irises. I was instrumental in getting up the Charter and the first Statewide meeting in Louisiana when we organized our Louisiana Society. Mr. Claude Davis, our recent past President, has furnished Louisiana native rhizomes to 75 testers in 68 different Men's Garden Clubs in the United States. All they are asked to do is furnish a report to their own Men's Garden Club and to him.

These are just a few of the suggestions which I am submitting as a result of your recent request.—JOE G. RICHARD, 220 Sunset Blvd., Baton Rouge, La.

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After reading with pleasure the article "Once in a Lifetime," and then the two comments on it in Bulletin #122, I am tempted to send a brief report of my dabbling along the same line.

But first, if Mr. Stevens got two out of eight seedlings that were "very much like B. Y. Morrison," then is it not possible to think of Ambassadeur as containing an amoena factor? It would be carried as a recessive through almost any number of generations, or perhaps segregate from the pallida and variegata ancestors as Dr. Randolph suggests. This is only accessory to your main thesis.

Second thought is, can there be two types of variegata factors, one of which is not completely dominant over the amoena pattern, while the other is? If so, where does the less dominant one arise—by mutation? And have you crossed Cortez with an amoena to see if it will segregate any appreciable number of amoenas? (If so, it would seem to me it, too, must carry a factor for amoena.)

My experience with amoena seed has been more rewarding than Mr. Wills or your own for quantity and germination. Mr. Edmison, now of Brighton, raised

sixteen seedlings from Wabash x Gudrun and about twice that number from the reciprocal cross. His interest in amoenas didn't run far enough to take them out another generation, in spite of the fact that there were some sharp bicolors among them. All had size, and some combined a number of other good features. Most of the seedlings that are now growing for me are from one or other of these. The best in my eyes is a huge near-white, #16, very like Gudrun but with much taller stems, and a little more flare and substance to the falls. These have a heliotrope flush when opening that almost disappears in the fully expanded bloom. (I have a kodachrome of this, close-up). It has proved almost impossible as a seed-parent, but fairly generously fertile with pollen. It set two tiny pods this year with some twenty or thirty seeds all told. I had tagged it faithfully day after day, but my enthusiasm waned and I merely used a couple of wires on two of the flowers—those set the two pods and try as I might I couldn't remember what pollen the wire signified. It certainly was amoena of some sort.

Schreiner's "Russet Mantle" has proved a very ready pod parent. There are 67 plants from '50 seed from it crossed with #16, many of which should bloom next spring. Russet Mantle is small but smooth and quite well-branched. Sixteen is huge but veined with a haft like Gudrun, and while the branching and stalk are near-splendid, there should be one more branch lower down. I wish you could have seen R. M. this year. There are three terminal buds, so I pollinated only two of these, but apart from that, every flower on two of the three stalks set pods to #16 pollen. I just couldn't find space for all the seed this fall.

The Edmison seedling, showing the sharpest contrast, has only two branches and terminal ordinarily, and a Gudrun-type haft, but is large, well-substanced, and crosses freely with its sister seedlings and with Wabash. It is a pink bi-tone, not unlike Frank Adams, but with

paler standards, and a broad edging of this colour around the falls. This was Mr. Edmison's pick, and it certainly shows promise but needs more quality. 1950 seed has yielded 20 plants from Wabash x 6-20 and 26 from 6-20 x Wabash, from only one pod in each case.

This year I set so many seeds I couldn't use them all. Wabash yielded seed freely to outcrossing, though these will almost surely be too far behind the times. I used blue self, plicata, blend and amoena-bred pollen. Wabash pollen was completely potent on a blue in colour seedling of Mr. Edmison's; I brushed four flowers and had four good pods "at once," (San Diego x Sierra Blue). On other things there was less success. Six or seven pollinations on Los Angeles yielded one dwarf pod with six seeds.

Last year Gaylord pollen refused to set seed on 16, and repeated itself this year, but *did* set one pod on Mexico. Pinnacle pollen, likewise donated by a friend, did not take except on Frank Adams, which has hitherto refused to set seed at all. These queer quirks are amusing. Mme. M. Lassailly, Amigo, Louvois and Allumeuse as well as Dorothy Dietz all set freely to #16 pollen, but I got no takes at all from Rumba Rose or Shannopin.

Your Extravaganza, again thanks to Father Corcoran's kindness, yielded me a pod for a pollination from #16 pollen, and I look forward to seeing some good near-amoenas from this cross a couple of years hence, for Extravaganza seems to have what it takes. You will think I should have used 6-20 pollen, and perhaps I shall another year, if it's not too late. No. 16 just has a tremendous appeal for me, and I keep wondering if there isn't the possibility of retaining enough of I. (dominant inhibited) to clear the standards of colour and leave some colour in the falls. (?)

Please excuse this carelessly conceived correspondence; I only hope it will be of sufficient interest to merit your reading. I went right out on a

limb and bought your Criterion from Mrs. Nesmith, Summit from Mr. Schreiner, and another bit of Extravaganza, so that there may be better quality in future crosses.

Oh, and Shah Jehan set quite freely to two of the Wabash x Gudrun seedlings and so did Ambassadeur, but I didn't even harvest the latter because of the pressure for room.—LLOYD ZURBRIGG, Canada.

#### BULLETIN #120 WANTED

I am a new member of the Society although I have had iris in my garden for several years. I had hoped to get a copy of the January, 1951 Bulletin containing articles on onco-cyclus and regelia iris but it was already out of print. If some member of the Society

decides at some time to get rid of his or her Bulletins I would be glad if they would get in touch with me as I would like to purchase that particular copy. I do know some people keep things for awhile and then wish to dispose of them.

If anyone finds it necessary to dispose of other back issues would they let me know the number and the price. I belong to other societies but it seems to me that the Iris Society is a real live organization. This is my first year to try oncos and regelias and some say they are impossible here. Are there any members in the Pittsburgh district who raise these—successfully or otherwise? I would like to hear from them.—FRANK CASSEL, 4000 Sarah Avenue, McKeesport, Pa.

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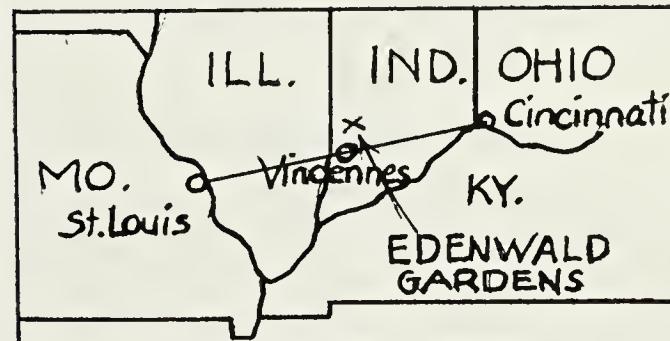
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## REGION 19 NEWS

Miss Harriette Halloway advises that at Rutgers University, in New Brunswick, Dr. Connors reports the entire remaking of their valuable iris planting. He says that it has been done in such a way as to show some of the best varieties introduced during different periods in iris development and, of course, many of the latest.

The statement about Mr. N. Leslie Cave and the Wilson Colour Chart in the October Bulletin prompts Miss Halloway to report her interest in his book, especially the chapters about the bulbous, other types of species and their hybrids. The two maps in the back—one of Eurasia and one of North America—showing native sources also can be recommended to iris growers who, beginning to realize the charm of these types and their hybrids, want to know more about them.

On May 28th, 1952, Region 19 will hold its Iris Show in co-operation with the Horticultural Society of New York. The show will consist of 30 classes and will take place in the rooms of the Horticultural Society in Essex House, 157 West 58th Street, New York City. Exhibitors are invited to enter the show and those interested in irises are urged to attend.

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# EXHIBITION REPORT

FERN IRVING, *Chairman*

## CALIFORNIA—

*Los Angeles . . .* The Southern California Iris Society staged its show on April 21 and 22, with thirty-four exhibitors making approximately 700 entries. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Luhrsen of Inglewood won the Silver Medal and Julian Wells of Montebello won the Bronze Medal. AIS Judge was Elsie Heimer; Frank Walker, Show Chairman.

*Sacramento . . .* The first annual show of the Northern California Iris Society was held on April 21 and 22. An estimated 10,000 visitors viewed the show. The Clunie Memorial Auditorium in McKinley Park, Sacramento, was the setting of this event. The foyer and stage were banked with potted plants, shrubbery and garden flowers. The auditorium of course was very nearly filled with iris.

Individual entries were judged by two well known iris lovers, Mr. Carl Salbach of Berkeley and Mr. Harold I. Johnson, Regional Vice-President of District 14. They did a marvelous job and we were more than pleased with their selections. The other classes were judged by Mrs. A. E. Morrison of Sacramento with the help of other Accredited judges who reside in this vicinity.

There were 13 collections shown, mostly of 10 distinct varieties, with the balance being of 5 distinct varieties. To all of the show visitors, without exception, the outstanding part of the show was the exhibit by the Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens of Placerville. Half of their large exhibit was made up of species of douglasiana, dwarfs, intermediates and table irises and the newer varieties of tall bearded iris. The balance of the display was by far the most spectacular and consisted of oncogelias, regelias, hoogiana, and related iris, all natives of the Holy Land and rarely

seen in the United States except as individual plants. There were a dozen or more perfect blooms of each species or variety exhibited and the total of blooms would run into the hundreds. Each one of the blooms was a spectacle that has probably never been seen at an iris show in the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Austin are certainly to be congratulated for stealing our show.

An exceptional seedling was shown by Mr. David Childs, Rte. 2, Box 140, Fair Oaks, California; it was all white with the same shape as Snow Flurry. The chairman of this show was Willard O. Pankost and the Secretary, John Wickham.

*San Jose . . .* Santa Clara County Iris Society held their first iris show in San Jose, May 5 and 6. In spite of inclement weather over five hundred visitors viewed the 460 entries made by fifty-three exhibitors. Mrs. Anda Stewart won the Silver Medal and the Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. Albert Sloan. Harold Johnson of Atherton was the AIS Judge, and did a fine job of judging as well as giving much helpful information to the committee, according to Dorothea Warner, Show Chairman.

*Santa Barbara . . .* Santa Barbara Branch of the Southern California Iris Society staged their show at the Recreation Center on April 28th. Forty-one exhibitors averaged four entries each. Clare W. Lovell acted as General Chairman, Elsie Heimer and J. Clarke Cosgrove were the AIS Judges. The Silver Medal was awarded to Frank Jordano, Jr., and Kate E. Walker won the Bronze Medal.

## CONNECTICUT—

*Devon . . .* The Devon Garden Club staged a Flower Show on June 9th, featuring an iris section under AIS co-operation. Extremely difficult weather

conditions cut down on the number of entries made, but the committee hopes to make a better showing another year. Mrs. Leslie Vaughan officiated as AIS judge; Mrs. Stephen Havanich, Jr., served as Show Chairman. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. David Richey and the Bronze to Mrs. John R. Lee, both of Devon. The club secretary sent an appreciative letter to the AIS Exhibition chairman, telling how thrilled the club members were to receive the medals and how very enthusiastic every one is about next year's prospective show.

#### GEORGIA—

*Atlanta . . .* The Iris Garden Club of Atlanta staged their show on May 1st and 2nd. Mrs. Wm. T. Wood judged a total of one hundred seventy-two entries made by fifty-eight exhibitors. The Silver Medal went to E. Fay Pearce and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. Thomas Tolle-son, both of Atlanta. Mrs. Eugene Pearce, Jr., served as Show Secretary.

*Jenkinsburg . . .* The Jenkinsburg Garden Club held their annual show in co-operation with the American Iris Society on Saturday, April 29th, at the Jenkinsburg Clubhouse. Mrs. F. W. Childs was Chairman. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. M. B. Farrar, the second place, and Bronze Medal to Mrs. T. T. Patrick. Rose Charm, an iris produced by Frank Childs won the tri-color award for best in the show. Harvey Hobson was the AIS judge and Kathryn Trapnell reporting Secretary.

*Macon . . .* The Macon Iris Show held April 14 and 15 was a Horticultural show primarily as 48 exhibitors made a total of 213 cultural exhibits against 43 entries in the Artistic classes. Mrs. R. F. Zeigler won the Bronze medal, with top honors and the Silver Medal going to Mrs. Robert M. Corley. Mrs. Grover Meaders acted as General Chairman, E. F. Pearce was the AIS judge.

#### IDAHO—

*Buhl . . .* The Magic Valley Iris Society in co-operation with the American

Iris Society, successfully staged its first valley-wide show June 2 at the F. H. Buhl school auditorium in Buhl, Idaho. Opened with record music, the show, one of the largest held in Idaho was enjoyed by more than 500 visitors. Fifty-four exhibitors from eight valley towns entered over 450 exhibits in the 60 classes, 50 of them being cultural. The table of artistic arrangements was staged as a focal point for the tables of cultural specimens. Interesting classes of arrangements were those depicting the name of an iris, such as Moonlight Madonna, China Maid, California Gold, etc. Mrs. Alfred Kramer won the Silver Medal, and Mrs. Ed Conrad of Castleford won the Bronze Medal. Mrs. Conrad also exhibited the stalk of Cloth of Gold judged "Queen of the Show." A membership in the AIS was awarded to Mrs. I. C. Kuykendahl as the highest winner in the non-member section. For bringing worthy entries from the greatest distance Mrs. Ruby Church of Heyburn and Mrs. Merle Clayville of Burley were awarded special prizes of iris rhizomes. Mrs. James Meher, Nampa and Mrs. C. W. Vallette of Decla were the AIS judges. Mrs. David Fox, Twin Falls, and J. J. Brennan of Buhl judged in the artistic section. Mrs. Sidney W. Smith served as show chairman.

#### INDIANA—

*New Castle . . .* Iris Garden Club of New Castle held their show on May 26 and 27th. Mary Williamson, AIS Exhibition judge, judged the 116 entries made by 36 exhibitors. Mrs. Elmer Kidd was awarded the Silver Medal; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Mr. Elmer Kidd. The Show Chairman was Mrs. Wm. P. Wethington. Mrs. Cecil Keith displayed the stalk of Sierra Blue which was judged best in the show. Mr. Kidd was runner-up with Lady Mohr.

#### IOWA—

*Dubuque . . .* In spite of adverse weather conditions which lowered the number of exhibits, the quality of the en-

tries was high—only six faded blooms pieked from 125 specimens on the second day. The show was sponsored by the Dubuque Civic Garden Club and held June 2 and 3. Mrs. Ray Bush of Earlville, Iowa served as AIS judge and complimented the committee on the quality of the show. Mr. John T. Kahle was awarded the Silver medal and the Bronze medal to Mr. C. B. Young both of Dubuque. The Bronze Medal for a Commercial display was awarded Wm. H. Rauch for a display of 43 named varieties. Mrs. Merlin Osborn was Show Chairman.

*State Center* . . . State Center Garden Club held a Flower Show with an iris section as a feature. As in many places, the weather affected the number of entries, but a showing of 135 specimens by 24 exhibitors was quite satisfactory as shown by the photograph whieh was ineluded with the report. Miss Iva J. Swalwell of Collins, Iowa served as AIS judge, assisted by Mrs. Ed Gezel and Mrs. Murray of Des Moines. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. Angie Gutekunst of State Center, and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. John Ross of Clemons, Iowa. Mrs. Mabel Veren served as Secretary.

#### KANSAS—

*Hutchinson* . . . An Iris show sponsored by the Hutchinson Iris Club was held May 20th. Mr. F. H. Banyard was awarded the Silver Medal as top winner among 24 exhibitors displaying 215 entries. The second highest winner was Mrs. L. P. Brumley who was awarded the Bronze Medal. Elizabeth Kuykendall acted as General Chairman and John Ohl was the AIS Exhibition judge.

*Wichita* . . . Wichita Iris Club held their annual show on May 19 and 20, with 39 exhibitors making 338 entries. Mrs. Thelma Schwinn was the winner of the Silver Medal, and Peter C. M. Koster won the Bronze Medal. C. E. Peaeoek was awarded a Bronze Medal for the best commercial display. Roy Brizendine served as AIS Judge.

#### LOUISIANA—

*Baton Rouge* . . . The Men's Garden Club of Baton Rouge held their first AIS show on April 1st. Al Alleman, Seeretary of the Show and an officer in the Men's Garden Clubs of Ameriea, reports that 22 exhibitors brought 119 entries. Claude Davis was awarded the Silver Medal and the Bronze was won by Glen Hamner, both of Baton Rouge. Mrs. J. C. Roberts was the AIS Exhibition judge.

*Shreveport* . . . The National convention of the Ameriean Iris Soeity visited the fine iris show staged by the Shreveport Iris Society on April 23 and 24. The show was judged by Mrs. Geddes Douglas, Clarenée Connell and Ira Nelson. The Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Milton Trichel, the Bronze Medal by Mrs. Earl Bellows. The Purple Rosette ribbon was awarded a stalk of Sierra Blue exhibited by Mrs. R. L. Barrett of Bøsier City, and a Purple rosette for the best Louisiana iris was given to a stalk of Violet Ray shown by Miss Caroline Dorman of Saline, La. Mrs. Frederick Beck was the General Chairman.

#### MARYLAND—

*Baltimore* . . . The Mount Washington Garden Club ineluded an iris section in their big spring flower show. Eighty-three entries were made in the twenty-six cultural classes whieh were judged by Mrs. Wm. Bridges, AIS Accredited judge and ex-Chairman of Flower Show Schools for the National Council of State Garden Clubs. Mrs. Polydor Komianos won the Silver Medal and Mrs. George Elliot won the Bronze; both winners are Baltimore residents.

#### MICHIGAN—

*Mio* . . . The weatherman must have favored the Mio Irisarians as they staged their annual iris show on June 10th with 368 entries, exhibited by sixty-two entrants. For the second straight year, Ernest Schantz of Fairview had the best speeimen in the show. This year it was a stalk of Chivalry. A stalk of Ola Kala shown by Earl Taylor was

a close second in judging the best stalk. Mrs. Carl Naas, who is an Accredited judge for both the American Iris Society and the National Council of State Garden clubs, judged both sections of the show. Ernest Schantz also won the Silver Medal for having won the most blue ribbons in the show, second place and the Bronze Medal went to Mrs. E. D. Jacques of Tawas City, Michigan.

*Flint . . .* The second annual iris show of the Central Michigan Iris Society was held in Flint on June 9th. The total attendance was the largest on record with 1,243 visitors registered. One hundred ninety-six entries were made in the cultural classes by exhibitors from Flint, Saginaw, Owosso, Corunna, Linden, Holly and Chesaning. The Queen of the Show was a stalk of Chivalry shown by Mrs. J. M. Starbuck, with a stalk of Ola Kala shown by R. J. Phillips running a close second. Mr. Phillips won the Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons in the show, having won six, and the Bronze Medal went to Mrs. Edwin Crosby. Chas. E. Morgan of Flint, judged the exhibits.

#### MINNESOTA—

*Duluth . . .* The Twentieth Annual Iris Show of the Duluth Peony and Iris Society in co-operation with the American Iris Society was held in the Northern Minnesota National Bank, June 20th and 21st. The morning before the show the iris were in perfect condition and there was every prospect for a wonderful exhibit. About noon it started to rain, turned into a real storm, rain, high wind, and a little hail. Some exhibitors were fortunate enough to get their stalks cut, but not all, so the show was not as large as usual. Mr. Austin Lathers won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Arthur Wells won the Bronze Medal. Mrs. A. D. Ludden was awarded the book, "The Iris—the Ideal Hardy Perennial." An excellent job of judging was credited to Mr. Granvil B. Gable, AIS judge, for the cultural section. Miss Alice Berry of Minneapolis judged the Artistic section.

*Minneapolis . . .* The thirty-first annual Iris show of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society was held June 2 and 3 at Minneapolis Savings and Loan Bldg., Minneapolis, Minnesota. In spite of cold rainy weather for a week before, a very successful show was held. Four hundred forty-five specimen stalks were exhibited and 40 arrangements. Mr. G. B. Gable of the Gable Gardens, Minneapolis, won the AIS Bronze Medal for the best commercial display and also the Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons. Mr. W. G. Sindt of St. Paul won the Bronze Medal for the second greatest number of blue ribbons. The Savings and Loan Association Gold Cup for the best iris in the show went to Burns Iris Gardens of Minneapolis for a well grown stalk of Spun Gold. Mrs. W. C. Peterson of Minneapolis served as AIS judge.

*Willmar . . .* The Willmar Garden Study Club held an Iris show on June 6th, at which the Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. Edgar Olson and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. Lydia Habart. Mrs. Elsie Peterson of Minneapolis judged the show.

#### MISSOURI—

*Columbia . . .* The Central Missouri Area of the American Iris Society staged their Iris show in Columbia on May 22 and 23rd. Charles Lewis of Kansas City, Kansas pleased both committee and exhibitors with an excellent job of judging the one hundred forty-four entries placed by twelve entrants. Mrs. M. D. Jett won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Earl Brown won the Bronze Medal.

*Joplin . . .* The Iris Circle of Joplin with a membership of twelve eager iris growers, staged their first American Iris Society show May 19 in the First Baptist Church.

Over three hundred entries were placed in identical containers which were milk bottles. The lower half of the bottles were painted green and the upper half yellow with a small, attractive Iris design on one side. Mr. Emsley Simms and Mrs. J. A. Sapp, both Ac-

credited judges, judged the show. Mrs. Ted James, Chairman of the show, exhibited the best specimen stalk which was the variety Gallant Leader. Mr. R. E. Armstrong of Neosho, Missouri won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Jessie Harrison won the Bronze Medal. The evening was highlighted by a showing of Travel and Flower slides by Mr. Dalton De Shazer.

*Kirksville . . .* The eleventh annual Flower Show sponsored by the Kirksville Floriculture Club used "Beauty" as the theme. The iris section in co-operation with the American Iris Society showed an increase in the number of exhibitors, especially from other parts of Northeast Missouri. Dr. Henry Schirmer of St. Joseph, Mo., judged in the cultural classes and Mrs. Roy Blair of Troy with the assistance of Mrs. Henry Schirmer judged the Artistic section and the House Plants. Many new varieties of bearded iris were shown, but a stalk of Sierra Blue shown by Mrs. W. J. Young of Trenton was judged best of the show. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. E. W. Scott and the Bronze Medal to J. L. Blanchard. The scoring was very close in that both top exhibitors had five firsts and two seconds, but Mrs. Scott won five thirds to Mr. Blanchard's two thus giving her the Silver Medal. The 1950 Iris Show of the Kirksville group was awarded the Purple Ribbon for Flower Show Achievement by the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

*Kansas City . . .* The Greater Kansas City Iris Society held their fourth annual Iris show on May 20th at St. Agnes School Hall. The number of entries was not as large as last year, but William Kolb, President of the Society, said the quality of bloom was very satisfactory, a triumph over adverse weather. The show was judged by Mrs. Bernard Ulrich and Rev. David Kinish of Atchison. The Sterling Iris Garden won first with the best commercial display, and in the amateur division P. M. Peterson, 5400 Euclid Ave., was winner of the most

blue ribbons. Two teachers, who garden as a team, exhibited the best specimen stalk in the show, a relatively well-branched specimen of Gloriole. The teachers are Mrs. Julia Salmon Johnson and Miss Alice O. Barbour who write for the garden pages of the Kansas City *Star* and other publications.

*Neosho . . .* The Neosho Garden Club held their annual Iris show on May 12 and 13th, with forty-seven exhibitors making three hundred six entries. Mrs. W. A. Gates, of Aurora served as judge. The Silver Medal went to R. E. Armstrong of Neosho and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. Byron Fly of Joplin.

*Sedalia . . .* Council of Sedalia Garden Clubs sponsored a Spring Flower Show with the American Iris Society co-operating in the Iris section. The job of judging the two hundred fifty-eight entries went to Mrs. C. C. McClanahan of Knob Noster. Mrs. C. L. Carter, Sedalia, won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Wiley Booth, Sedalia, was awarded the Bronze Medal.

*St. Louis . . .* A most successful spring flower show, sponsored by the St. Louis Horticultural Society in co-operation with the American Iris Society, was held May 19 and 20 in the Display House of the Missouri Botanical Gardens. The show was well attended, although unseasonably hot weather held down the number of entries. Mr. Albert Lauck, Alton, Illinois won the Silver Medal, Mrs. Dorothy Palmer, Webster Groves, Mo., won the Bronze Medal. Mr. C. E. Rudy won the Purple Rosette for the best specimen in the show, a beautiful specimen of Snow Flurry. The seedling class was unusually well represented. Mr. Clifford Benson exhibited a Flamingo pink, T.M.-19, which received considerable attention; his seedling 48-7, a large white; 50-78 a warm white with yellow throat; Mrs. Palmer's 50-24, deep orange-yellow and 50-2, a ruffled black purple, and 50-12, white with green influence throughout; as well as Mr. Joseph Wiesner's table Iris 49-1 an unusual onco cross, were se-

lected for exhibition certificates. Judges were Ellsworth Appel and Elmer Tie- man. Mrs. Margaret Chalmers was Show Chairman and Mrs. John Drizik was Co-chairman.

#### NEBRASKA—

*Atkinson . . .* The annual Iris and Flower Show of the Atkinson Iris Society was held June 9th. The fact that twenty-five exhibitors entered a total of 189 exhibits shows that lots of fine iris are grown in Atkinson. The show committee used the widest possible variety of publicity to attract both exhibitors and visitors to the extent of attracting visitors from 22 Nebraska towns and some out-of-state visitors. Mrs. C. C. Raymer won the Silver Medal of the AIS for winning the most Blue ribbons and a Bronze Plaque donated by Mrs. Frank Brady for exhibiting the best specimen in the show, a stalk of Glori- ole.

Mrs. A. W. Martens won the Bronze Medal. Judging were Mrs. Ralph Ricker of Sioux City, Iowa, assisted by Mrs. Hazel Purtzer, Mrs. Alfred Martens, Mrs. C. E. Spence and Mrs. Lane Griffin all of Atkinson.

*Omaha . . .* The Greater Omaha Iris Society staged their second annual Iris show at Riverview Park Pavilion on June 3rd. The unusual season was responsible for the lack of quality in much of the bloom, but some very fine specimens were shown. Approximately three hundred entries in the cultural classes were judged by C. W. Tompkins of Sioux City, and the Artistic section was judged by Mrs. H. Lyle Guyer of Blair, Nebraska. The Silver Medal was awarded to G. E. Redman, Ralston, and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. C. A. Hagelin of Omaha. The Purple Rosette for the best specimen of the show went to L. H. Kelly for a near-perfect stalk of Ola Kala.

#### OKLAHOMA—

*Enid . . .* The North Central Iris Society of Enid staged their annual Iris show on May 12 and 13 with sixty-five

exhibitors making five hundred sixteen entries. The task of judging this huge show went to J. Lee Rogers of Bison, Okla. The Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Victor Ingram of Lamont, and the Bronze Medal by Mrs. Lee Rogers of Bison.

*Stillwater . . .* Iris Unit of the Stillwater Garden Clubs staged an Iris show on April 30th. Winner of the Silver Medal was Mrs. D. B. Jeffrey, and Miss Myrtle Williams won the Bronze Medal. A membership in the AIS was given to Mrs. Dan Diehl. J. Lee Rogers of Bison served as judge.

*Muskogee . . .* The Muskogee Garden Club staged an Iris show on May 5th and 6th. The three hundred seventy-six entries were judged by Ensley Sims of Neosho, Missouri. The Silver Medal was won by L. B. Creekmore, and the Bronze by W. T. Patrick, both of Muskogee.

*Lawton . . .* The Lawton Garden Council in co-operation with the American Iris Society held its first all-Iris Show April 27, in the McMahon Foundation Auditorium. The American Iris Society awards were as follows: Silver Medal to Mrs. G. S. Weaver and Bronze Medal to Mrs. R. L. Gilbert. Membership in the AIS to Mrs. Guy Wilson. Mr. Tom Strickland, non garden club member, with his Lady Mohr specimen took the AIS Rosette ribbon for the best grown Iris.

Mrs. Paul Picket won Sweepstakes in the Artistic section with Mrs. Chas. Jennings winning Tri-color for the most outstanding arrangement. Between five and seven hundred visitors attended the show between two and nine P.M. Because of the interest in iris in this section of the state, exhibits were invited from nearby towns. There were 215 entries in the horticultural section, 15 seedlings, and 4 commercial displays. Mrs. Paul Updegraff and Mrs. J. L. Rader of Norman were the AIS judges for the cultural sections, and being Accredited judges of the National Council assisted in the judging of the artistic section.

*Oklahoma City . . .* Approximately 1,200 people attended the 1951 Iris Show held Saturday and Sunday, May 5th and 6th, at the Oklahoma City University Art Studio, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Julius J. Hohl, Society President, was General Chairman of the Show. This annual event, sponsored by the Oklahoma Iris Society in co-operation with the American Iris Society, carried the theme, "IRIS THROUGH THE YEARS."

Interest in growing Iris is rapidly increasing as evidenced by the fact that a great number of out-of-state visitors attended the show, as well as residents of Oklahoma City and 36 Oklahoma towns.

In the Specimen Division a total of 53 exhibitors entered 393 specimens. In the Arrangements Division 11 Exhibitors entered a total of 40 arrangements.

*Awards of the American Iris Society were:*

**THE SILVER MEDAL** to Mrs. E. G. Sawyers 3000 East Reno, Oklahoma City, Winner of the greatest number of first prize points.

**THE BRONZE MEDAL** to Mrs. Earl Sanders, 1602 Birch, Oklahoma City, Winner of the second greatest number of first prize points.

**THE PURPLE ROSETTE RIBBON** to Mrs. H. W. Arnett, 1515 N.W. 33rd Street, Oklahoma City whose entry "SPUN GOLD" was chosen "Queen of the Show."

The white seedling originated and exhibited by Mrs. L. A. Masterson of Yukon, Oklahoma was considered by the judges "Worthy of Distinction."

In the Arrangement Division awards of pottery were won by the following:

**FIRST PRIZE** to Mrs. H. A. Raboin, 1808 N.E. 23rd Street, Oklahoma City.

**SECOND PRIZE** to Mrs. Cyrus C. Stanley, 2401 N.E. 24th Street, Oklahoma City.

**THIRD PRIZE** to Mrs. Howard Estes, 2429 N.W. 36th Terrace, Oklahoma City.

Judges for the Specimen Division were: Chairman, Mrs. J. A. Sapp, Jop-

lin, Missouri; Dr. Charles Decker, Norman, Oklahoma; Mr. Henry F. Murphy, Stillwater, Oklahoma; and Miss Eleanor Hill, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Judges for the Arrangement Division were: Chairman, Mrs. J. Tunnell Foster, Oklahoma City; Mrs. G. T. Brockett, Oklahoma City; and Mrs. W. K. Miller, Oklahoma City.

In the Educational Division there were attractive commercial exhibits featuring new varieties of iris. These were developed by H. A. Raboin and Harry Thomas, local growers. Another educational feature which created considerable interest and comment was a beautiful display of Dykes Medal Winners over the years.

Local newspapers and radio stations co-operated wholeheartedly in issuing releases and spot announcements covering the Show. Eight theatres carried trailers announcing the show and attractive posters were prominently displayed in store windows by local merchants.—JULIUS J. HOHL, *General Chairman*.

#### OREGON—

*La Grande . . .* The Blue Mountain Iris Club held their Iris show on June second with eighteen exhibitors showing two hundred one specimens. Mrs. Albert Haase of Walla Walla, Washington judged the show. The winner of the Silver Medal was Mrs. Cecil Wagner of La Grande; the Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. Wallace Westenskow of Imbler.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA—

*Spartanburg . . .* The Iris Club of Spartanburg staged their Iris show around the theme "Pictures of Spring." The focus or center of interest in the decorations was a large easel holding a famed niche in which a large iris arrangement was placed. Mrs. B. Z. Ruff and Mrs. W. R. Willauer were Chairmen and Co-chairmen respectively; AIS Accredited judge was Mrs. M. L. Church of Charlotte, North Carolina. The Silver Medal was won by Mrs.

Lampley Whisenant, the Bronze Medal by Mrs. Herbert Hicks. Mrs. Hicks also exhibited the outstanding specimen, a stalk of the variety Nobility.

#### TEXAS—

*Gainesville* . . . It was a "banner" day at the Community Center building on April 29th, when the iris presented colors in the spring show sponsored by the Gainesville Iris Club. Specimens ranging from pure white to vivid red formed an orderly riot of color for one of the most artistic shows presented here, and carried out the theme, "The Power of Color Harmony." One of the largest crowds to attend a flower show—approximately 400 persons—enjoyed the beautiful display of iris. The focal point of the show was a corsage tree placed against a background of palms and greenery flanked by large arrangements of purple iris. Mrs. S. W. Ray and Mrs. A. M. Tallmon of Fort Worth, both Accredited judges, officiated in the Horticultural divisions; Mmes. Hans Cook, W. D. Hurley and John Culp, of Gainesville, judged the Artistic division. The Silver Medal was awarded to Mrs. Joe Leonard and the Bronze Medal to Mrs. Wilson King.

*Chillicothe* . . . On April 29th, the Chillicothe Garden Club presented their annual Iris show using the theme, "Iris Round-Up Time," in a setting of the early west. The specimens, titled "Texas Brags," were displayed down the center of the room between the spokes of weatherworn wagon wheels. A background of cattle brands, native plants and a corral fence completed the rustic but colorful scene. On either side tables held the Artistic classes which were cleverly named to fit the theme. Each class was marked with brown paper charred at the edges, looped with leather, representing an old, dried cowhide, mounted on a stick. Boots, bonnets, cowboy hats, lariat ropes, and bottles were some of the things used as containers. Special displays of special interest included an iron pot filled with "Branded Beauties," the Dykes Medal

winners, and an old one-horse buggy filled with a gorgeous array of iris blossoms. Mrs. Seth Sager acted as Show Chairman, Mrs. J. E. Gill of Wichita Falls, judged the show, and the Silver and Bronze Medals were won by Mrs. W. W. Bragg and Mrs. Ed Meharg.

#### UTAH—

*Salt Lake City* . . . "I'm going to get me one of those iris right away," remarked a well-dressed lady as she looked at Moonlight Serenade on the seedling table. A steady stream of favorable comment was noted in that corner of the show.

Naylor's Moonlight Serenade is a large ruffled cream-white with a very pale yellow center lighting. This faint center lighting adds to the purity of the over-all light cream effect, and reminds one of it's famous parents: Snow Flurry and Hall's 42-10. The stalk is tall and branching is very good. We understand Tell Muhlestein will introduce it when increase is sufficient. Tell had a few very choice flowers of his own among the seedlings. My untrained eye may have missed those with highest rating, but I especially liked his 48-91-A, a large ruffled blue-purple with that "Mohr" look. If Tell brought it to the show, there is no need for me to mention good branching, substance, etc., so quickly noted by the experts. Tell's 51-12 was a lilac fancy with color painted on a-la-modern. We will surely see more of this "Mohr." Carl Larsen exhibited a deep red-purple surely related to the "Mohr" family.

J. F. Pratt showed his blue seedling with faint veining, an over-all orchid tint, and excellent branching. No doubt I have missed the best ones, there was so much else to see.

The unusual included: Lucia (Regelia) and Eric the Red (Siberian) by Louise Andrew; Susiana (Onco) by Mrs. H. Hausknecht; Copperton (grown at higher altitude than Salt Lake City); Butterfly Wings, Mustapha, and a Siberian iris by Fisher Harris; Tectorum and Graminea by Walt Foulger; Caesar

(Siberian) by Herbert Hyde; and Pseudacorous (Water Iris) and Graminea by Valentine Jacobson. This list could also go on. Dutch iris were beautifully represented by an arrangement that brought a First and Sweepstakes for Olive Thayne.

A large arrangement composed mostly of his seedlings, took a First for Raymond Solomon. That is a choice way to exhibit beautiful seedlings that may not otherwise meet full approval of the "cool-eyed" experts. Our Queen this year was a splendid specimen of Cascade Splendor, brought in by Fisher Harris. His Sea Lark was the Queen's attendant. The "bluest" went to Mrs. Milton Holdaway's Cahokia.

All classes were generously exhibited, except possibly the tangerine-bearded pinks, and these apparently were home helping to produce better pinks.

Valentine Jacobson and her well-chosen committee can be justly proud of the completely successful 1951 Utah Iris Show.

#### WASHINGTON—

*Walla Walla . . .* The Fifth Annual Iris Show was held in the lobby of the Marcus Whitman Hotel at Walla Walla, Washington on May 25th. The judges for the cultural division were Mrs. Ralph Nelson, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho and Mrs. L. B. Losey, College Place, Washington. An estimated 1,200 people visited the show. The "Best Iris Specimen" in the show was Pinnacle exhibited by Mrs. Regna Evans. The Silver Medal went to Mrs. Tom Brown of Walla Walla, the Bronze Medal to Austin Morgan, College Place, Washington, and the Bronze Medal for outstanding commercial display to Wm. Chandler, Brookside Gardens, of Walla Walla.

#### WISCONSIN—

*Milwaukee . . .* Shadow boxes filled with a non-competitive display of many types, varieties and colors of iris were the feature of the iris show held at the Mitchell Park Conservatory, June sec-

ond and third, by the Wisconsin Iris Society. Total attendance for the two days was 6,390 which was an increase over the previous year. Mrs. Sylvia Roecker and Alfred Boerner were judges in the cultural classes. Dr. Allen Kriz of Elm Grove won the sweepstakes with a marvelous stalk of Great Lakes. Mr. A. Blodgett of Waukesha won the Silver Medal and Mrs. Robert Reinhardt, also of Waukesha won the Bronze Medal.

#### ENGLAND—

The Silver Medal which is awarded at the show of the Iris Society of England each year was won by H. J. Randall.

#### EXHIBITION OFFICE REPORT—

A number of very late show reports increased the number of medals required beyond the number on hand, thus making it necessary to re-order medals in September. Those on hand were sent on a first come, first served basis except in some cases where two medals were won by the same person. All medals should be sent by the time this is in print, but if not, they will be mailed as soon as available.

We had no more than the usual number of show cancellations this year even though the season was quite unfavorable in many sections.

A number of Iris clubs have mentioned the increased interest in the Artistic arrangement section of iris shows and have commented on awards for this section. The American Iris Society, is, of course, interested primarily in the culture of irises, but the Exhibition department will endeavor to assist with show problems in any way possible if you will write in your needs and wishes. An award for the artistic sections could be made available to clubs at cost much the same as the Purple Rosette for the Best specimen, or some other award if it is desired.

I wish to thank all show chairmen who co-operated by sending in reports promptly and completed.—FERN T. IRVING, *Chairman.*

## Exhibition Judges-1952-53

The following list of judges are Accredited to judge at Iris shows and at least one (preferably two) should be selected to judge the cultural classes of any show co-operating with the American Iris Society.

### Alabama

Mrs. Mildred Almon,  
1232 Regal Ave., Birmingham 9  
Mrs. Walter S. Going,  
1125—10th Place So., Birmingham 5  
Mrs. Paul E. Green, Westwood,  
Rte. 14, Box 342, Birmingham  
Mrs. William Henderson,  
314 Sterrett Ave., Birmingham 9  
Mrs. John Paul Lyle,  
5037—7th Ave., South, Birmingham  
Mrs. E. R. Merrill,  
1030 So. 26 St., Birmingham  
Mrs. Robert C. Palmer,  
2817 Montevallo Rd., Birmingham  
Mrs. John M. Strange,  
3001 Canterbury Rd., Birmingham 9  
Mrs. Walter C. Thompson,  
2907 Southwood Rd., Birmingham 9  
Mrs. L. H. Houston,  
Hartselle  
Mrs. G. B. Hill,  
Rte. 1, Box 26, Sylacauga

### Arizona

Philip G. Corliss,  
P. O. Box 68 (14 Canal St.) Somerton

### Arkansas

Joseph W. House,  
1014 Boyle Bldg., Little Rock

### California

Clarke Cosgrove,  
922 South 9th St., Alhambra  
Harold I. Johnson,  
172 Austin Ave., Atherton  
Carl Salbach,  
657 Woodmont Ave., Berkeley 8  
Eric Nies,  
1423 No. Kingsley Dr., Hollywood 27  
Thomas T. Craig,  
910 Rome Dr., Los Angeles 65  
Mrs. George G. Pellock,  
1341—45th St., Sacramento  
Willard O. Pankost,  
401—41 St., Sacramento 16  
Mrs. A. E. Morrison,  
2524 Marshall Way, Sacramento

### Stewart H. Carse,

2844 Chatsworth Blvd., San Diego 6

### Miss A. J. McLean,

8273 Lorain Rd., San Gabriel

### Elsie Heimer,

4748 Columbus Ave., Sherman Oaks

### Mrs. Arthur L. Romer,

Rte. 1, Box 101, Ukiah

### Ralph L. Conrad,

13542 Hart St., Van Nuys

### Mrs. J. C. Cruise,

General Delivery, Yucaipa

### Colorado

### H. M. Shulenburg,

7606 Robinson Way, Arvada

### Mrs. F. S. Mattocks,

Rte 1, Box 64 B, Boulder

### Mrs. Roy M. Wolf,

1020 Greenwood, Canon City

### Ruth Roelfs,

Box 427, Monte Vista

### Connecticut

### Mrs. Louis M. Snyder,

159 Plymouth Ave., Bridgeport 14

### Mrs. Alexander R. M. Boyle,

Half Mile Rd., Darien

### Mrs. David M. Richey,

29 Colonial Ave., Devon

### Caroline Florence Lexow,

415 Nine Hill Rd., Fairfield

### Mrs. Woolsey S. Conover,

Clapboard Hill, Guilford

### Mrs. Alvin C. Smith,

325 Gulf St., Milford

### Mrs. Charles I. Stephenson, Box 3004,

Westville Sta., New Haven 15

### Mrs. J. W. Tilton, Amity Rd.,

Woodbridge, New Haven 15

### Mrs. Herbert Keever,

57 Urban St., Stamford

### Mrs. Emil J. Tramposch,

Monroe Center, Stepney Depot

### Mrs. Leslie E. Vaughan,

Rte. 2, Stepney

### Mrs. Peter J. Cascio,

2600 Albany, West Hartford 7

Mrs. Frederich W. Holloway,  
Seymour Rd., Woodbridge

### **District of Columbia**

L. H. Odell,  
6110 Ridge Dr., Washington 16  
Mrs. Lee Webster Selfe, 1631 Primrose  
Rd., N.W., Washington 12

### **Florida**

Miss Donna Melissa Stoddard,  
Florida Southern College, Lakeland  
Mrs. Guy Yaste,  
123 West Blount, Pensacola  
Mrs. L. Roy Brace, Brookside Dr.,  
Rte. 1, Box 1369, Sarasota  
Mrs. John R. Bear,  
4103 Barcelona St., Tampa

### **Georgia**

Miss May Hudson,  
1474 Peachtree N.W., Atlanta  
E. Fay Pearce,  
339 Beverly Rd. N.E., Atlanta 5  
Mrs. C. Carl Sloan,  
9 Berkeley Rd., Avondale Estates  
Mrs. Carroll T. Greer,  
1311 Clairmont Circle, Decatur  
J. Harvey Hobson,  
Box 817, Emory University  
Mrs. Herbert Edmondson,  
516 Coadler St., Gainesville  
Mrs. J. B. Loudermilk,  
1167 Green Street Circle, Gainesville  
Lewis H. Beck,  
431 West Poplar St., Griffin  
Mrs. J. Bert Baggally,  
1241 Adams St., Macon  
Mrs. Howard D. Barber, Sr.,  
1236 Patterson St., Macon  
Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff,  
1195 Brentwood Ave., Macon  
Mrs. Jack Cates,  
561 Marjorie Place, Macon  
Mrs. Mary W. Connell,  
3514 Log Cabin Dr., Macon  
Mrs. Buford Freeman,  
3847 Columbus Rd., Macon  
Mrs. Grover A. Meadors,  
3226 Seminole Ave., Macon  
Mrs. B. T. Oxley,  
1772 College St., Macon  
Joe Thomas,  
3856 The Prado, Macon

Mrs. Joe Thomas,  
3856 The Padro, Ingleside, Macon  
William T. Wood,  
240 Second St., Macon  
Mrs. William T. Wood,  
3875 Overlook Ave., Macon  
Miss Willie E. Rice,  
Marshallville  
Mrs. L. L. Butts,  
Thomaston

### **Idaho**

Mrs. Alfred Kramer,  
Rte. 2, Buhl  
Mrs. Ed Conrad,  
Castleford  
Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson,  
906 Foster Ave., Coeur D'Alene  
Mrs. C. W. Vallette,  
Box 158, Delco  
Mrs. Estelle Alexa Ricketts,  
Rte. 3, Jerome  
Mrs. Arthur N. Walker,  
Rte. 2, Kimberly  
Mrs. James Maher,  
Box 43 (708—10th Ave., So.) Nampa  
Mrs. Sidney W. Smith,  
Rte. 2, Twin Falls  
Mrs. Thos. E. Speedy,  
459 Elm St., Twin Falls

### **Illinois**

Mrs. F. R. Friedewald,  
Rte. 2, Belleville  
Mrs. F. O. Reh,  
Rte. 2, Box 416, Belleville  
Mrs. Harry N. Rosinos,  
215 Lincoln St., Edwardsville  
Earl E. Hodson,  
470 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn  
Mrs. William F. Haberer,  
933—22 St., Moline  
Dr. C. E. Branch,  
Piper City  
Richard Goodman,  
253 Bloomingbank Rd., Riverside  
Orville W. Fay,  
1522 Isabella St., Wilmette

### **Indiana**

Mrs. Glen Kildow,  
504 East Jackson St., Alexandria  
Mary Williamson,  
419 West Market St., Bluffton

Mrs. Ethel M. Carter,  
324 East 15th St., Connersville  
Mrs. Fred J. Mabrey,  
Rte. 1, Crown Point  
Mrs. Frances C. Horton,  
528 West Bristol St., Elkhart  
Miss Thelma Hill,  
Lowell  
Mrs. I. M. Kenworthy,  
Hills-Edge Farm, Rte. 1, Monrovia  
Mrs. John Downing,  
Rte. 2, Four Acres, Mooresville  
Mrs. Ray L. Robinson,  
206 College Ave., Paoli  
Mrs. Geo. M. Freeman,  
Box 42, Parker  
Mrs. Chester V. Steed,  
Redkey  
Mrs. Elmer Billman,  
53 East Mechanic St., Shelbyville  
Mrs. Glenn T. Andrew,  
1142 North Eighth St., Terre Haute  
**Iowa**  
Mrs. Earl Postma,  
109 State St., Ackley  
Mrs. John Fett,  
Ankeny  
Mrs. Paul M. Seifert,  
419 Green St., Boone  
Mrs. John F. Laughlin,  
612 West Cherry St., Cherokee  
Mrs. C. S. Hausen,  
711 West Main, Clarinda  
Miss Ada I. Swalwell,  
Collins  
Miss Iva J. Swalwell,  
Collins  
Mrs. Mildred Smiley,  
Dallas Center  
Mrs. E. J. Delarue,  
2727 Middle Rd., Davenport  
Mrs. Roy Briar,  
1349 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines 16  
Arloine M. Lunt,  
1510 Germania Dr., Des Moines  
Mrs. W. R. Murray,  
3900 Franklin Ave., Des Moines 10  
Mrs. Paul E. Perry,  
918 East Ovid Ave., Des Moines 16  
Mrs. Ray E. Sterrett,  
3202—8th St., Des Moines  
Mrs. Teresa C. Bush,  
Earlville

Mrs. Hazen C. Pettit,  
Rte. 5, Oskaloosa  
Mrs. Eugene Criss,  
208 South 8th, Sac City  
Mrs. Ralph E. Ricker,  
1516 Ross St., Sioux City  
William S. Snyder,  
3822 Fourth Ave., Sioux City  
Chester W. Tompkins,  
423 Casselman, Sioux City 17  
Mrs. A. E. Anderson,  
428 West 4th, Spencer  
Mrs. Angie Gutekunst,  
State Center  
**Kansas**  
David Ross Kinish, O.S.B.,  
St. Benedict's College, Atchison  
Bernard E. Ulrich,  
1120 Parallel St., Atchison  
Mrs. Bernard E. Ulrich,  
1120 Parallel St., Atchison  
Mrs. E. C. Dafforn,  
Cunningham  
Mrs. Beryl L. Smith,  
506 Miami St., Hiawatha  
Charles H. Lewis,  
4512 State Line, Kansas City  
William A. Kolb,  
12610 West 55 St., Shawnee  
Roy Brizendine, 2214 Maryland  
(or 420 Monroe), Topeka  
Orville M. Baker,  
810 Litchfield, Wichita 3  
Edward S. Justice,  
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Mrs. David G. McMillan,  
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Mrs. Mark R. Werman,  
17 James St., Brookline 46  
Mrs. Robert Gordon Richards,  
16 Elm Park, Groveland  
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Mrs. David P. Barry,  
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2557 S.W. Vista Ave., Portland 1  
Mrs. Howard C. Ritter,  
5620 N.E. Cleveland Ave., Portland 11  
Mrs. Milton E. Winters,  
6834 S.W. Virginia Ave., Portland 1  
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Briar Hill, Fayette Co.  
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